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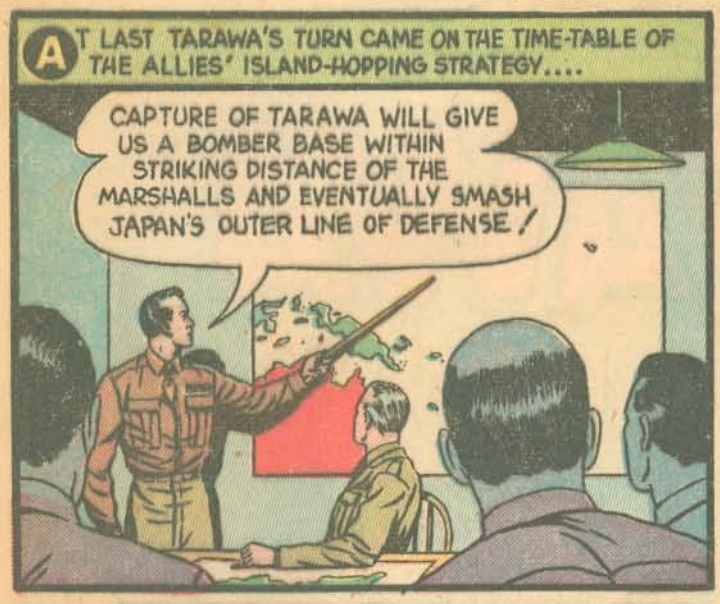
TARAWA

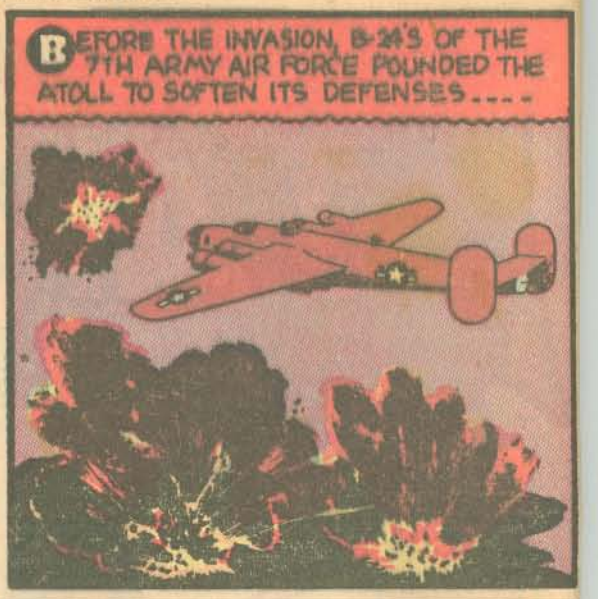
by MART BAILEY

TWENTY-ONE CORAL ISLETS FORM THE TARAWA ATOLL, A BRITISH POSSESSION IN THE CENTRAL PACIFIC; BUT MOST OF THE JAPANESE INSTALLATIONS WERE ON *BETIO*, 3000 YARDS LONG AND 1000 YARDS WIDE, AT THE EXTREME SOUTHWESTERN PART. HERE WAS FOUGHT THE *TOUGHEST FIGHT IN THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS....*

JAPANESE IMPERIAL MARINES, SOON AFTER THE SNEAK BOMBING OF PEARL HARBOR, SWARMED OVER THE TARAWA ATOLL AND TOOK THE BRITISH COLONY FROM THE NATIVES AND A FEW MISSIONARIES.

FOR FIFTEEN UNINTERRUPTED MONTHS THEREAFTER, 400 SLAVE LABORERS BROUGHT FROM KOREA WORKED TO COMPLETE THE STOUTEST DEFENSES AND FORTIFICATIONS FOR THEIR NIPPONESE MASTERS.


AT LAST TARAWA'S TURN CAME ON THE TIME-TABLE OF THE ALLIES' ISLAND-HOPPING STRATEGY....
CAPTURE OF TARAWA WILL GIVE US A BOMBER BASE WITHIN STRIKING DISTANCE OF THE MARSHALLS AND EVENTUALLY SMASH JAPAN'S OUTER LINE OF DEFENSE!


BEFORE THE INVASION, B-24'S OF THE 7TH ARMY AIR FORCE POUNDED THE ATOLL TO SOFTEN ITS DEFENSES....

NOVEMBER 21, 1943—D-DAY, THE DAY OF INVASION—ONE OF THE MIGHTIEST AIR AND NAVAL ARMADAS OF ALL TIME MASSED FOR THE ATTACK ON TARAWA AND NEARBY MAKIN ISLAND IN THE GILBERTS. SO OVERWHELMING WAS OUR BOMBING AND FIRE POWER THAT NO REAL OPPOSITION WAS ANTICIPATED....

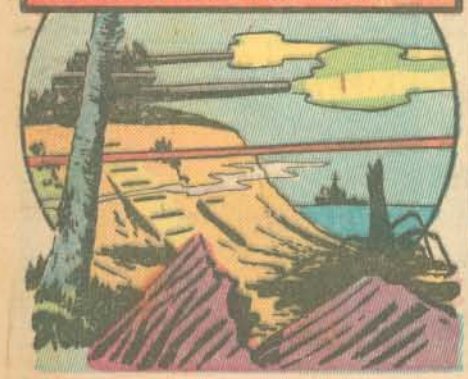
CAN'T BE MANY JAPS LEFT ALIVE DOWN THERE—
THOSE WE MISS THE NAVY'S BIG GUNS WILL TAKE CARE OF!

WHEN ARE WE GOING ASHORE? THEY'VE HELD US UP FORTY-FIVE MINUTES ALREADY SO THE BOMBERS AND NAVY GUNS CAN GET IN A FEW EXTRA LICKS.
ALL WE'LL HAVE TO DO IS WALK IN AND PICK UP THE PIECES—IF THERE ARE ANY PIECES LEFT!

AS THE ASSAULT BOATS APPROACHED BETIO, HOWEVER, AND THE NAVAL BOMBARDMENT SHIFTED TO INLAND OBJECTIVES, THE JAPS CREPT FROM BOMB-PROTECTED SHELTERS TO MAN THE SHORE GUNS.

MISFORTUNE STRUCK SWIFTLY AND TERRIBLY. AN UNEXPECTED SOUTHEAST WIND WAS DRIVING THE WATER OFFSHORE AND THE ASSAULT BOATS GROUNDED ON THE SHOALS AND CORAL HEADS THAT SURROUND THE ATOLL. STILL MORE THAN 500 YARDS FROM THE BEACH, THE MARINES HAD TO WADE NECK-DEEP IN THE ROUGH SURF THROUGH BARB-WIRE BARRICADES....

FROM EVERY CORNER OF BETIO THE ENEMY UNLEASHED A MURDEROUS FIRE....8-INCH NAVAL GUNS CAPTURED FROM THE BRITISH AT SINGAPORE, 5-INCH COAST ARTILLERY, HIGH-CALIBER ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS, THOUSANDS OF MACHINE GUNS AND RIFLES....



BY NIGHTFALL THE MARINES HAD TAKEN THE PIER AND HAD EXPANDED TO 300 YARDS LONG AND 30 TO 50 YARDS DEEP A BEACHHEAD THAT FOR A TIME WAS ONLY 20 FEET WIDE. THEY HELD IT AGAINST ALL THE FURY THE JAPS COULD HURL AT THEM.

FEW SUPPORTING WEAPONS REACHED SHORE THAT FIRST DAY; BUT COL. DAVID W. SHOUP, SENT BACK FIGHTING WORDS TO THE FLAGSHIP.....
TELL THE GENERAL WE'LL STICK AND FIGHT IT OUT.!

DURING THE NIGHT, THE BEACHHEAD WAS REINFORCED BY SURVIVORS OF THE TWO BATTALIONS THAT WERE REPULSED AT SECTORS ONE AND THREE.

MEANWHILE, ARMY AND NAVY BOMBERS VISITED THE MARSHALL ISLANDS IN DIVERSIONARY RAIDS... AND THE U.S. FLEET WAITED IN VAIN FOR THE MIKADO'S SHIPS TO JOIN BATTLE....

D PLUS ONE—THE SECOND DAY OF THE INVASION OF TARAWA...
MOST OF THE BIG JAP GUNS WERE KNOCKED OUT YESTERDAY —BUT BE CAREFUL! THE NIPS HAVE PLENTY OF FIGHT!

SUNRISERS SNIPING FROM THE STRANDED BARGES. THEY MUST HAVE INFILTRATED DURING THE DARK.
SET UP THE MORTARS —AND CLEAR THEM OUT.!

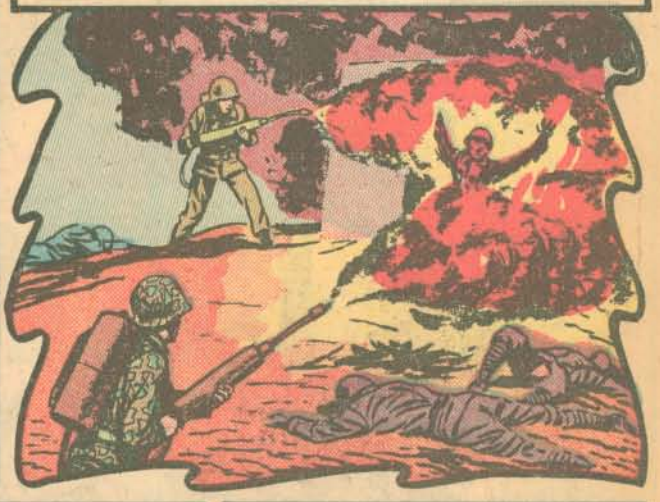
EVERYWHERE THE MARINES WERE EAGER TO ADVANCE FASTER THAN WAS BELIEVED SAFE....
STAY DOWN, YOU GUYS.!
THEY'LL GO ANYWHERE, THOSE MARINES!

TWO DESTROYERS, SUPPORTING THE MARINES ASHORE, SWUNG BACK AND FORTH IN THE LAGOON, RISKING THE DANGEROUS REEFS WITH TWO MINESWEEPERS, AND BLASTED JAP POSITIONS
MESSAGE FROM THE MARINES, SIR —THEY WANT US TO SHELL A BLOCKHOUSE.
GIVE THE ORDER!
TARAWA-BOOM-TEE-AVE! WITH ACCENT ON THE BOOM!
WONDER WHAT THE NAVY WOULD SAY IF THEY KNEW WE'D CHASED ONLY FOUR JAPS INTO THAT BLOCKHOUSE
THE MARINES USED 75MM GUNS MOUNTED ON HALF-TRACKS WITH DEVASTATING EFFECT UPON SNIPERS AS WELL AS ENEMY EMPLACEMENTS.
ONE OF OUR TANKS CAUGHT FIFTY JAPS IN A REVETMENT TUNNEL AND WIPED THEM OUT WITH CANNON FIRE....
FLAME THROWERS BURNT OUT RESISTANCE IN PILLBOXES AND BLOCKHOUSES....
MARINE FLIERS SWOOPED IN AT TREE TOP LEVEL TO STRAFE THE NIPPONESE GROUND FORCES.

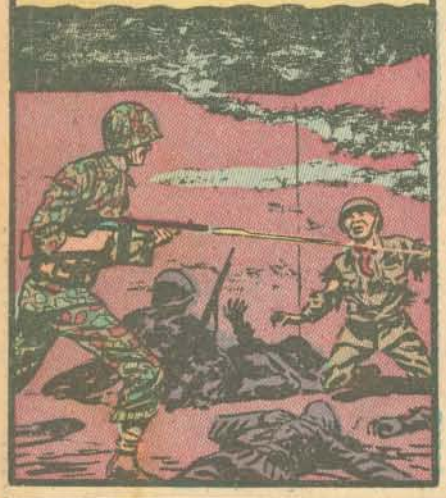
SO THOROUGHLY DID OUR BOMBERS SMASH THE JAP AIRFIELDS ON TARAWA, MAKIN AND THE MARSHALLS THAT ONLY TWO ENEMY BOMBERS APPEARED OVER TARAWA....
ON THE MORNING OF D PLUS TWO, THE THIRD DAY OF THE INVASION, STRONG INFANTRY UNITS OF THE 2ND MARINE DIVISION POURED ASHORE ON THE WEST COAST OF BETIO...
JAP MARINES, EH? MEET A MARINE FROM BROOKLYN!
SAVE A COUPLE FOR ME, FLATBUSH! LIVE JAPS ARE GETTIN' SCARCE AROUND THESE PARTS.
ON THE NARROWING SANDSPIT AT THE EXTREME EASTERN TAIL OF THE ISLET, THE JAPS RESISTED FIERCELY....
THEN, INCREDIBLY, PROMPTED BY SOME PECULIAR TWIST OF NIPPONESE CHARACTER, THE REMNANTS OF THE JAP GARRISON CLIMBED OUT OF THEIR DEFENSES AND CHARGED ACROSS THE OPEN GROUND IN PERFECT FORMATION.
THOSE CRAZY JAPS! THEY'RE ACTIN' LIKE THEY WERE STILL IN BOOT CAMP.
THEN BOOT 'EM!
THE WHOLE JAPANESE OUTFIT WAS ANNIHILATED. IT WAS THE LAST ORGANIZED EFFORT OF THE ENEMY ON TARAWA....

FOR TWO DAYS SEVERAL HUNDRED JAPS, HOLED UP IN A BOMB PROOF SHELTER, KEPT THE MARINES FROM CAPTURING THE BETIO AIRFIELD, THEIR MAJOR OBJECTIVE ON TARAWA.

COVERED BY AUTOMATIC RIFLE MEN, TWO MARINES FINALLY RUSHED FORWARD WITH FLAME THROWERS AND SCORCHED OUT THE ENEMY MACHINE GUNNERS



THE OTHER MARINES FINISHED THE JOB, AND THE BETIO AIRSTRIP FELL INTO THEIR HANDS.



THEREAFTER JAP RESISTANCE WILTED RAPIDLY. ALL THAT REMAINED WAS THE BLOODY BUSINESS OF MOPPING UP.

FACED WITH ANNIHILATION OR CAPTURE, THE REST OF THE JAPS COMMITTED HARI KARI....

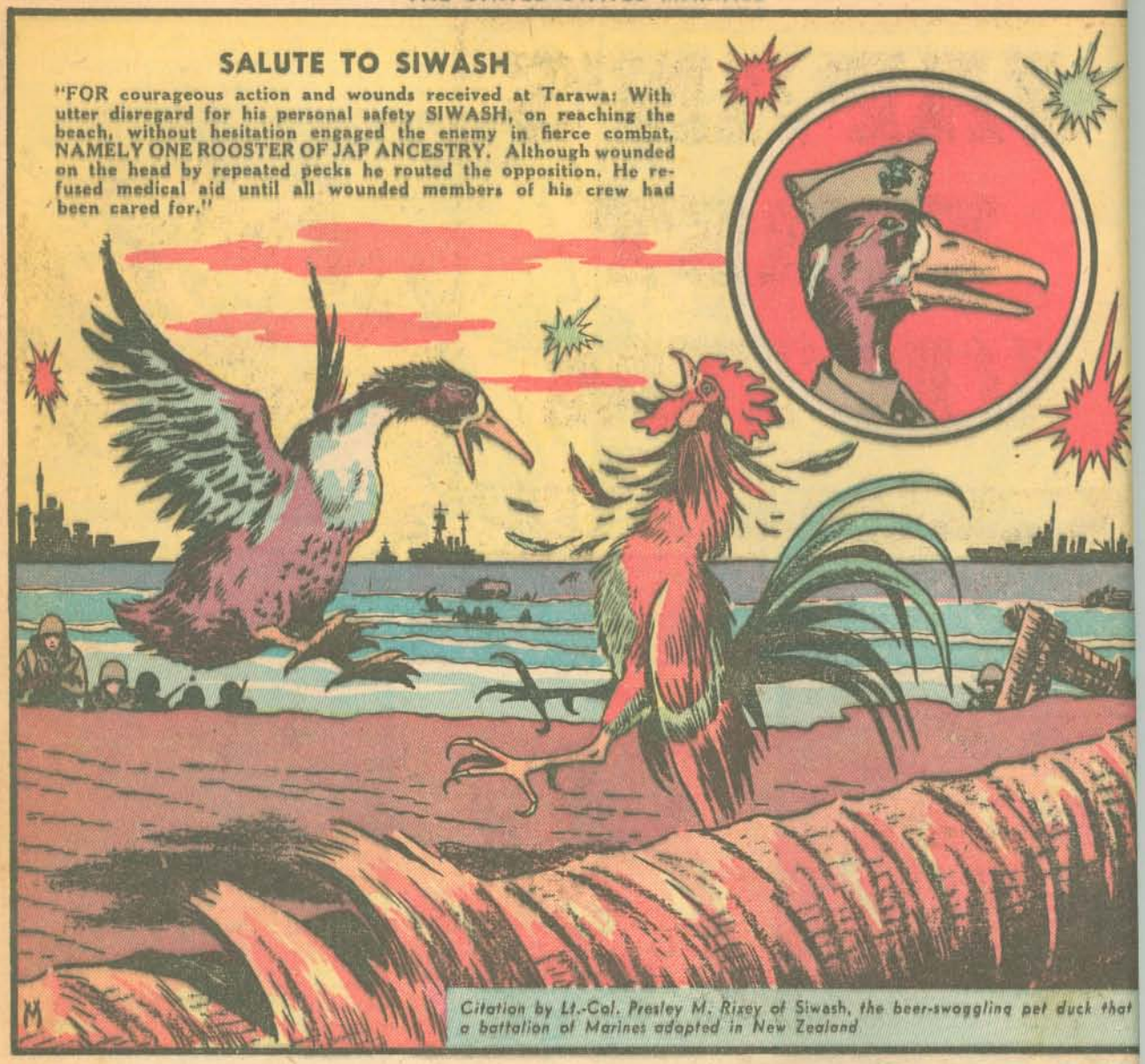
AND SO, SEVENTY-SIX HOURS AFTER THE INVASION BEGAN, *TARAWA* FELL. THE CONQUEST WAS COMPLETED SO QUICKLY, AS ONE OBSERVER SAID, BECAUSE THE MARINES WERE WILLING TO DIE UNFLINCHINGLY.

EXCEPT FOR SEVEN PRISONERS TAKEN, THE ENTIRE JAPANESE GARRISON OF 4000 WAS KILLED. THE KOREAN LABORERS SURRENDERED EARLY IN THE FIGHT.

IN COMPARISON, OUR LOSSES PROBABLY WERE NOT AS HIGH AS THE JAPANESE SUFFERED IN THEIR INVASION OF WAKE ISLAND, WHERE 380 MARINES HELD OUT FOR TWELVE DAYS AGAINST AN ATTACKING FORCE COMPARABLE IN STRENGTH TO OURS AT TARAWA.*

SALUTE TO SIWASH

"FOR courageous action and wounds received at Tarawa: With utter disregard for his personal safety SIWASH, on reaching the beach, without hesitation engaged the enemy in fierce combat, NAMELY ONE ROOSTER OF JAP ANCESTRY. Although wounded on the head by repeated pecks he routed the opposition. He refused medical aid until all wounded members of his crew had been cared for."



Citation by Lt.-Col. Presley M. Rixey of Siwash, the beer-swaggling pet duck that a battalion of Marines adopted in New Zealand

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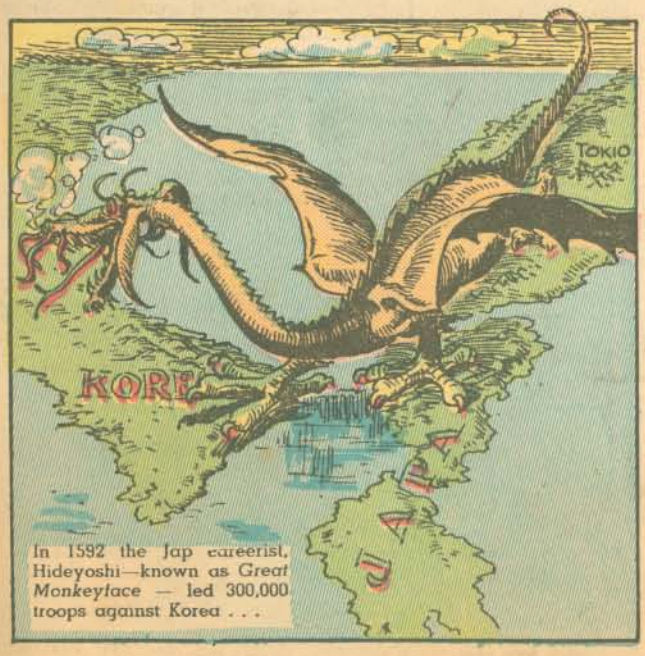
JAPAN'S FIRST VICTIM

There is a captive nation in the East, a nation owning the dubious distinction of being Japan's *first* victim . . . This is the Jap-ruled country of Korea, described by realistic Sons of Heaven as *"a sword pointed at the heart of Nippon"*...!



In 1592 the Jap careerist, Hideyoshi—known as *Great Monkeyface* — led 300,000 troops against Korea . . .

The invasion failed, partly because of the Korean navy, the first to use *"ironclads."* (But after 6 years of bloody war, Hideyoshi's samurai saved his simian *face* by bringing back 40,000 Korean and Chinese ears to Japan.)

THE "remedy" was a treaty which made Korea a part of Japan's sphere of influence . . . In 1895, after Nippon's victorious war with China, Viscount Miura arrived in Korea and proceeded to develop "friendship" for Japan. His first step was to order the murder of Korea's last Queen, Myung-Sung . . .

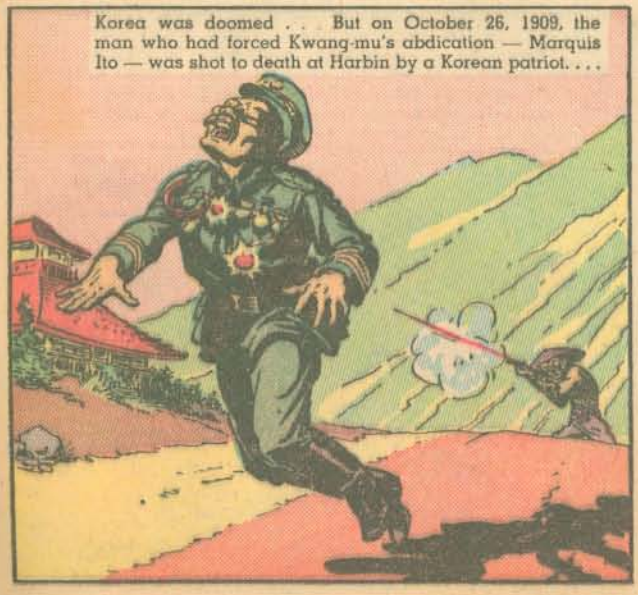
The bodies of the Queen and her faithful attendant were thrown down into the palace courtyard, where they were drenched in kerosene and burned . . .

THUS YOU DIE, CAPTAIN TSUCHIDA, FOR THE MURDER OF MY QUEEN---AND SO THAT MY COUNTRYMEN WILL KNOW AND REMEMBER ME, I WILL WRITE MY NAME UPON THE WALL!
But it took Kim Ku only four years . . .

In 1904, Korea permitted Japan's army to pass through on its way to the Yalu River, a fact which contributed greatly to Nippon's victory over Russia...

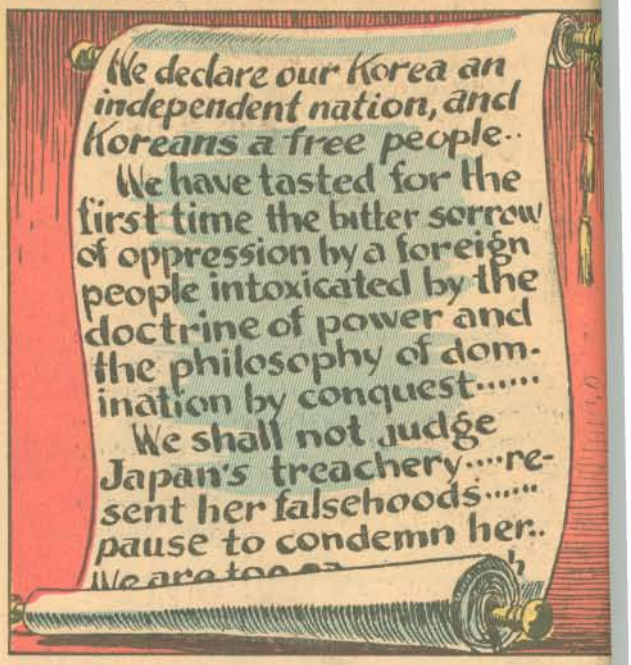
JAPAN'S PURPOSE IN KOREA IS PEACE-----!
The Russo-Japanese peace conference was held in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, where, at the suggestion of President Roosevelt, Japan requested a protectorate over Korea . . .

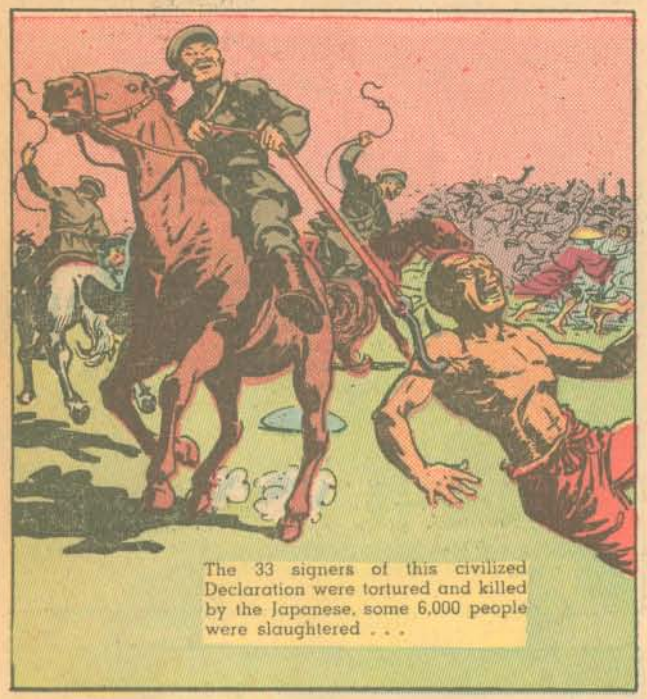
Establishing her "protectorate" in November, 1905, Japan forced Korea's Emperor, Kwang-mu, to abdicate . .


Korea was doomed . . . But on October 26, 1909, the man who had forced Kwang-mu's abdication — Marquis Ito — was shot to death at Harbin by a Korean patriot. . . .

So, Governor-General Terauchi came to Korea, and with him a new name for the ancient Hermit Kingdom — "Chosen" . And with him also, torture, exile, and death for Koreans . .

An independent nation for 42 centuries, Korea, annexed by Japan in 1910, refused to die. On March 1, 1919, 2,000,000 Koreans gathered in city and village squares to hear patriots read a *Declaration of Independence!*
MANSEI!
MANSEI!


We declare our Korea an independent nation, and Koreans a free people..
We have tasted for the first time the bitter sorrow of oppression by a foreign people intoxicated by the doctrine of power and the philosophy of domination by conquest.....
We shall not judge Japan's treachery....resent her falsehoods..... pause to condemn her..


The 33 signers of this civilized Declaration were tortured and killed by the Japanese, some 6,000 people were slaughtered . . .

KOREAN BRATS!

LOOK! THEY CRUCIFY KOREAN CHRISTIANS!
IN SOME VILLAGES THEY ARE BURYING WOMEN ALIVE!

THIS, then, is the background . . Today, in Chungking, Korea has a Provisional Government, its President that same Kim Ku who strangled the Jap Tsuchida. And it is the burning desire of President Kim Ku and his followers to establish the Korean Declaration of Independence as a living document of freedom . . . !

CONQUEST OF THE MARSHALLS

THE DARING and successful assault of Kwajalein Atoll, the chief enemy base in the strategic Marshall Islands, shattered once and for all Japan's outer defense line in the Pacific. Deeper penetration into enemy territory was made possible and in March and April strong American forces struck powerful blows at the Jap-held islands of Truk, Ponape, Woleai, Yap and Palau.

The important island of Roi, one of the Marines' objectives in the Marshalls, was captured by them in a little over 24 hours. Separated from Roi by a 200-yard causeway was Namur Island, on which the Japs made their last stand against the Devildogs. Fighting here was difficult and desperate, and the Marines resorted to tactics previously employed in the bitter Battle of Tarawa.

1—The terrific explosion of a Japanese ammunition dump produced this unusual effect. The blast was set off by low flying fighter planes that were strafing ground positions. One fighter pilot, caught by the force of the explosion, lost his life.

2—Men of an anti-tank platoon are pounding away with their 37-mm anti-tank gun at a strongly fortified pillbox.

3—No time is wasted by these Marines landing on the beach at Namur Island. The machine gunner doesn't wait to remove his inflation belt before setting up his weapon.

4—Shortly after landing on Namur these Marines start moving inland They take advantage of a shallow trench before approaching closer to investigate the building in the background. The blasted trees give much evidence of the heavy air and sea bombardment the island underwent prior to the Leathernecks landing.

5—Four hundred yards up the beach is a pocket of deeply entrenched Japs. Here a machine gun crew grimly annihilates them.

6—A communications unit stands by for orders at radio telephone sets installed behind a low sea wall on the beach at Roi Island.

7—Marines with fixed bayonets charge across an open field on Namur Island during the fierce 24-hour battle that followed the invasion.

8—Two Leatherneck sharpshooters take cover behind the blasted foundations of a Jap building to pick off snipers. Smoke (background) is still climbing skyward from a fuel dump set off during the bombardment.

9—Marine infantrymen and a light tank move up, while communications men set up equipment to keep in touch with the headquarters established on the beach.

10—A wounded Leatherneck, being carried from the front lines to a field dressing station, leans on his elbows to watch the tide of battle.

11—Palm trees, severed and toppled by bursting shells, provide some camouflage protection for the Marines as they prepare to attack enemy positions.

12—Alert and cautious, these Leathernecks creep up on a blockhouse from which the Japs are firing viciously.

13—Suspicious Marines dash by the open ports of a pillbox during the mopping-up process — they don't trust any fortification until they have investigated it thoroughly.

14—Two men take cov behind blasted palm trees a third runs for safety in t face of murderous ene fire.

15—Machine gunners relax in their nest as the battle draws to a close. One of the Jap buildings struck by artillery burns fiercely in the background.

16—Jap installations on Namur go sky-high as Marine demolition squads go into action. On close-by Roi Island beach (in the foreground) more Marines return enemy sniper fire.

17 — Illustrious Sons of Heaven get a warm reception from this Leatherneck flame thrower.

18—Marines, with their artillery set up, stand by for action on one of the small islands that flanked Namur.

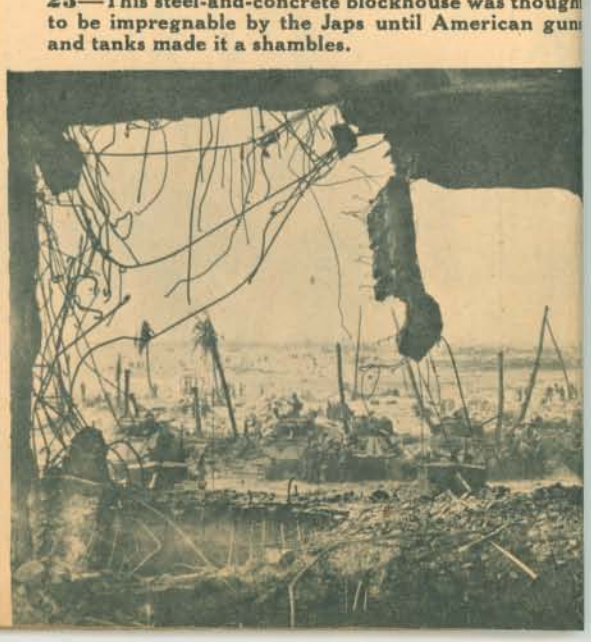
19—During the night two Japs sneaked into this pillbox, while Marines occupied a foxhole immediately in front of it. Morning came and the Leathernecks discovered their "guests" — they trained guns on the only exit and yelled for the Japs to come out and surrender or be blown up. One Jap gave himself up and informed the Marines his comrade was afraid — however, after several more threats to dynamite the pillbox the other Nip reluctantly surrendered.

20—Marine flame throwe who blazed his way on Namur Island, looks ov the bodies of two Japs wh tried to stop him. In th background is a shell-sha tered fortification.

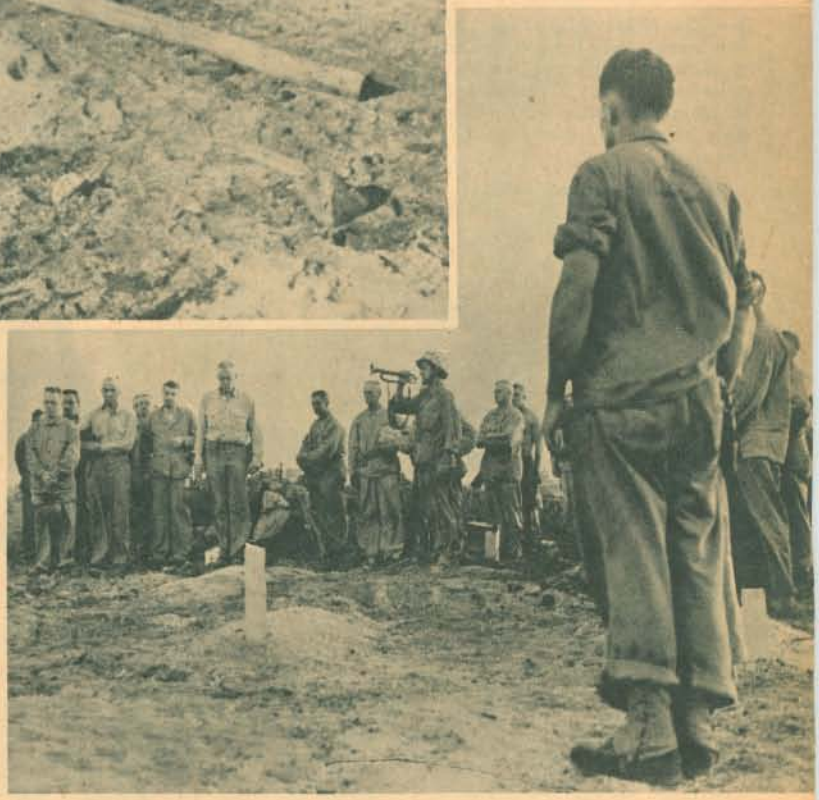
21—Unable to stem the onrushing Marines, these Japanese dead line a trench. Few prisoners were taken, as those who were not killed in the battle committed hari kari — like the two in the foreground.

22—A unit of a Marine division moves to a new location on Roi Island. The Japanese airfield, located here, was seized after mild fighting in contrast with the battle that was waged on Namur Island.

23—This steel-and-concrete blockhouse was thought to be impregnable by the Japs until American guns and tanks made it a shambles.

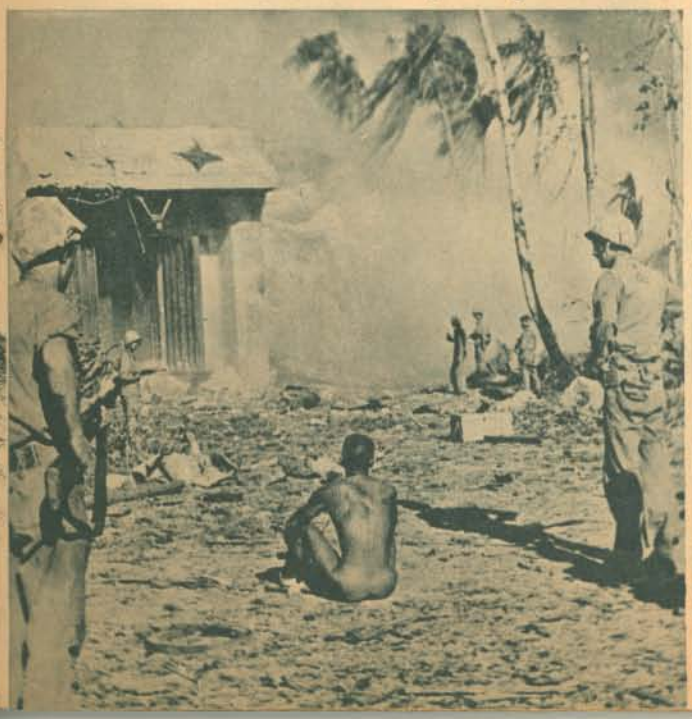


24—Three Leathernecks, bayonets ready, scouring Roi Island to check on possible living Japs the day after the Marine invasion. The one at right pokes a Jap with the steel to make sure he isn't faking.



25—A prayer and a promise are offered by battle-stained Marines, as a bugler blows taps for comrades fallen in battle—their sacrifice is final and complete.

26—Thirty-six hours after Namur Island was "secured", a supposedly silenced Jap blockhouse exploded. On the left a Jap, miraculously alive after being blown out of the building, sits on the ground as Marines move towards the burst steel doorway. In the photo on the right, another dazed Jap crawls from beneath the debris. Two more were found inside — there had been 20 Japs hiding in the blockhouse before the explosion revealed their position.



THEY TOOK A LOOK AT TRUK!

1—On February 4, 1944, twelve days before powerful American task forces launched a crushing dawn attack on *Truk*, heart of Japan's vast Pacific empire, 22 U. S. Marines flew in two B-24 Liberators on one of the most daring reconnaissance missions ever undertaken. . . .

2—The B-24s left a base in the Solomons and headed northwest towards their objective, nearly 1300 miles away. They hit freak weather all along the route, *ice* forming on their wings as they crossed the *Equator!*

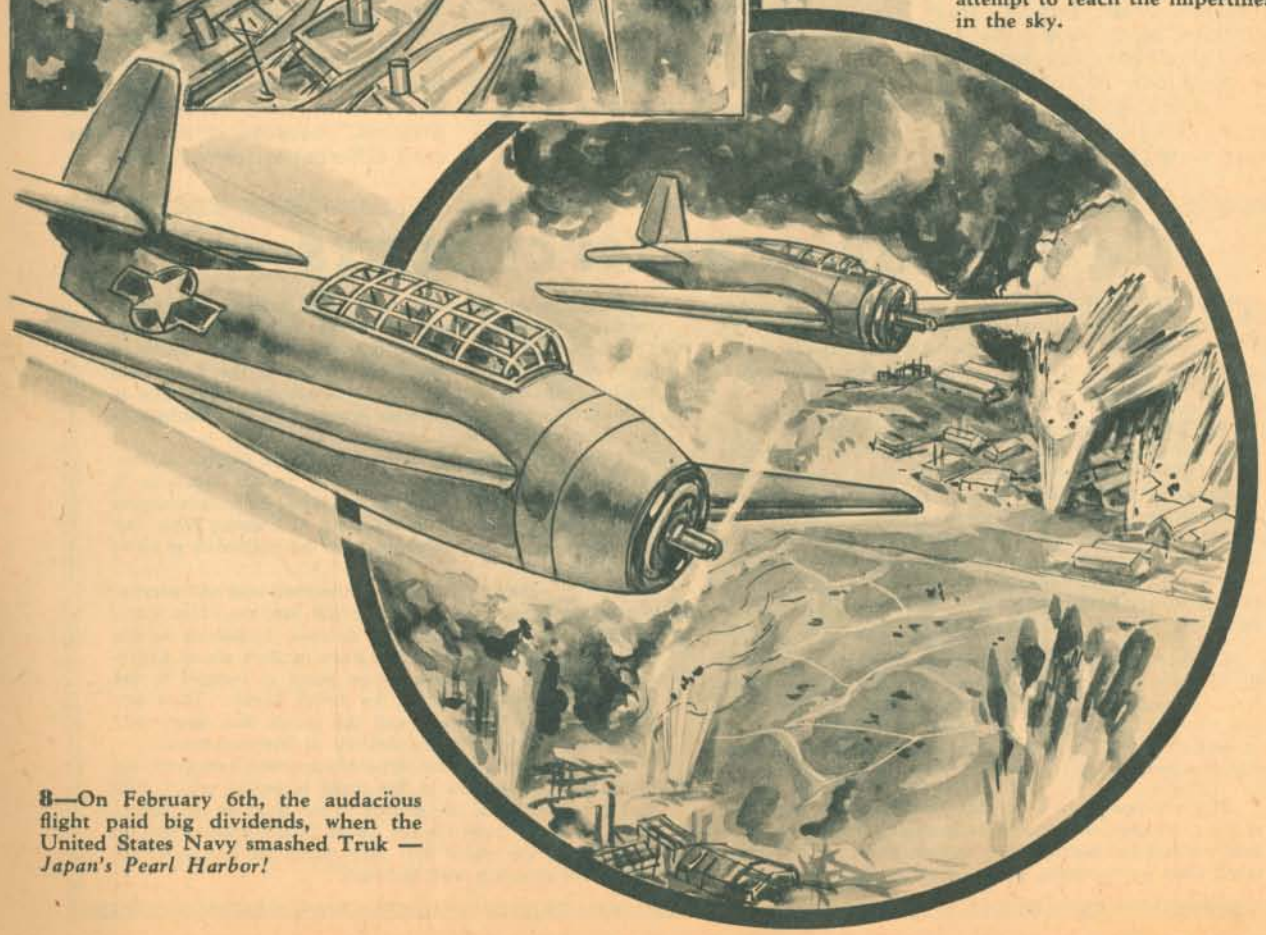
3 — Sudden tropical storm challenged them all the way t Truk, and dirty weather force them to fly by instrument th last two and a half hours b fore reaching the Carolines. I one of these violent tempest the two ships became separate

4—Despite all this, each plane arrived over Truk only a few minutes apart. The first B-24, taking the Japs by surprise, faced only 12 bursts of wild anti-aircraft fire. . . .

5—The second Liberator, how ever, ran into a hellish barrag of ack-ack hurled up by th now alert Japs on the groun and on the great armada o ships in the harbor. . . .

6 — But neither plane was damaged and both stayed over Truk for 20 minutes, making the photographs so essential to the success of the American attack that was to come.

7 — With vital information safely recorded in their great cameras, the Marines departed, as Jap fighter planes climbed desperately in a vain attempt to reach the impertinent spies in the sky.



8—On February 6th, the audacious flight paid big dividends, when the United States Navy smashed Truk — *Japan's Pearl Harbor!*

JAP SOUVENIRS FROM THE SOLOMONS

by TECHNICAL SERGEANT MILBURN McCARTY, Jr.,
Marine Corps Combat Correspondent

NEXT TO KILLING JAPS, American servicemen in the South Pacific like best to collect Jap souvenirs. Many soldiers, Marines, sailors and Seabees are picking up various enemy souvenirs on the Pacific islands these days, and are saving them to give to their sons when they get home.

One of the most unusual souvenir catches I heard about while on Guadalcanal was the case of two Seabees who captured a Japanese rifle. Fighting on Guadalcanal was all over at the time, but isolated Japs still remained hidden back in the hills, living off berries or whatever other food they could find. There are probably still a few uncaptured Japs on Guadalcanal, even today.

The two Seabees I mentioned had a Sunday off, and they spent it hiking over Bloody Ridge, looking for souvenirs that might have been left in the rough terrain where that terrible battle took place. The Seabees didn't have any luck at all, until the middle of the afternoon when, exhausted from tramping over the hills, they came upon another dirty, tired hiker.

The Seabees didn't pay much attention to this man. Keeping their eyes peeled for souvenirs as they were, all they noticed was that the hiker had a Japanese rifle on his shoulder. The Seabees ran towards the man, and one of them pointed to the rifle, shouting: "Hey, Mate, what'll 'ya take for that Jap rifle?" The man carrying the Japanese rifle *was* a Jap. He was so taken back by this unusual battle approach that he dropped the rifle and ran into the jungle. The Seabees got a souvenir, but they missed a chance to capture a Jap.

Up on Bougainville, where I went in on the invasion with a group of Marine Raiders, I noticed that the most prized souvenirs were Japanese swords and Japanese battle flags. The few swords we found were expensively made, and of the finest steel. I was told they were highly valued Japanese family heirlooms, being handed down with great pride from father to son.

Individual battle flags are carried by most Jap soldiers. They are presented to a soldier by his family or friends just before he is sent overseas, and he usually carries the flag on his person or in his pack. I was lucky enough to get one of these flags myself. It was white, with a big red dot in the center, all of good silk. In the white part were good-luck messages written in Jap characters by the soldier's friends. I had some of these characters translated. There were such messages as "ATTACK ALWAYS," "FIGHT FOR JAPAN," "FIGHT FOR TOJO," and the like. One longer message of good luck was signed "Big Brother."

Next in popularity as souvenirs among the Marines were Japanese pistols, chopsticks, Japanese money, rifles, and belly-bands. A Japanese belly-band is a peculiar part of the enemy's dress. It's a long piece of cloth which he wraps around his stomach. The enemy explanation is that it helps prevent one from catching a cold.

It seems to be a ritual with these Japs to decorate their belly-bands. I found one of these, too, at the same time I got the battle-flag. Such a belly-band, I learned, is called a "Belt of a Thousand Stitches," because it has a thousand different stitches sewed in it,

★ COMBAT CORRESPONDENTS ★

FOR THE PAST year and a half Combat Correspondents, fighter-writers of the United States Marine Corps, have been furnishing American readers with a blow-by-blow, first-hand account of Leatherneck activities at the fighting fronts.

The idea of Combat Correspondents was conceived by Brigadier General Robert L. Denig, Director of the Marine Corps' Division of Public Relations, a short time after the Japanese attack on Wake Island. There were no civilian reporters present when the island was assaulted on December 8, 1941. In fact, it would have been impossible for any newsman to have reached the island before the action was terminated, and as a result only a scant reportorial-smattering of the Marines' gallant defense ever appeared in the public press.

Combat Correspondents who could live and fight with the Marines proved to be the answer. They would be on hand during any action, and the intimate, personal account of the Leathernecks in the thick of battle would be accurately and competently reported by Marines specially trained for this duty.

The average Marine Combat Correspondent is seldom a big-name, by-line writer. He is a proven reporter who has worked for metropolitan dailies, press associations, small town newspapers, or broadcasting companies.

These newspaper and radio men undergo the usual recruit training of eight weeks at Parris Island, South Carolina, where they learn the use of infantry weapons and the adaptation of military tactics in the field. On many occasions this training has proved invaluable to Combat Correspondents who fought with the Marines in the Solomons.

Upon completion of "boot camp", the Marine fighter-writers are sent to the Division of Public Relations in Washington, D. C. There they receive an indoctrination course which includes the showing of training films, lectures on security and instruction on the gathering of news in the field.

General Denig's Combat Correspondents are serving with Naval task forces, amphibious landing units, paramarines, air contingents and defense battalions in the Pacific and elsewhere. They have written about everything from the Marine bagpipe band in Ireland to the native Samoan Marines in the South Pacific. Their stations have been varied, and the public has been well informed of Marine Corps activity at foreign bases.

The innovation of this type of reporting has paid big dividends. Now and in the days to come, which will find the Marines in the middle of the fight on the island of Japan itself, these Marine Corps fighter-writers will be there to tell the world that once again the Leathernecks "have the situation well in hand."

each of them representing a good wish. Sewed carefully inside the belly-band was a little pocket which held a few rice seeds, and a five sen coin dated 1921. A Marine friend of mine who once lived in Japan told me the rice seeds probably came from the family farm of the soldier who had owned the belly-band.

ONE OF THE MOST unusual souvenirs I saw on Bougainville was picked up by a correspondent friend of mine, Sergeant Frank Devine from New York. It was a page torn from the notebook of a Jap who died in the terrible Cape Torokina fighting, and Sergeant Devine found it near one of the enemy pillboxes we destroyed there. On the page was the following poem, in English:

DAINTY WEE DAISY

Dainty wee Daisy
Woke up with the sun.
"Up," said the Birdie,
"Morning's begun."

Pretty wee Daisy
Lifted her head,
"I am so thirsty,
Birdie," she said.

Dainty wee Daisy
Saw the shy frown,
Heard little raindrops
Hurrying down.

Grateful wee Daisy
Looked from the sod,
Said in a whisper,
"Thank you, Dear God."

The happiest souvenir owner I saw on Bougainville was a Marine "Music" who captured a bugle from a Jap "Music." His name was Robert L. Greenwell, and he came from Henderson, Kentucky. In the Marine Corps a "music" is a man who plays the bugle and takes a lot of kidding from his buddies. But "musics" go into battle just like other Marines, either fighting or serving as stretcher bearers. Music Greenwell was assigned to a particularly dangerous amphibious patrol which landed one night deep in enemy territory. Moving along the beach at 4 in the morning, he saw a Jap, and shot him. Crawling up to make sure the Jap was dead, Greenwell found the bugle strapped to his back.

"For me it was better than killing a Jap general," he said. The last I heard of Music Greenwell he was using the Jap bugle to rouse his buddies every morning at their camp in the Solomons.

THE END

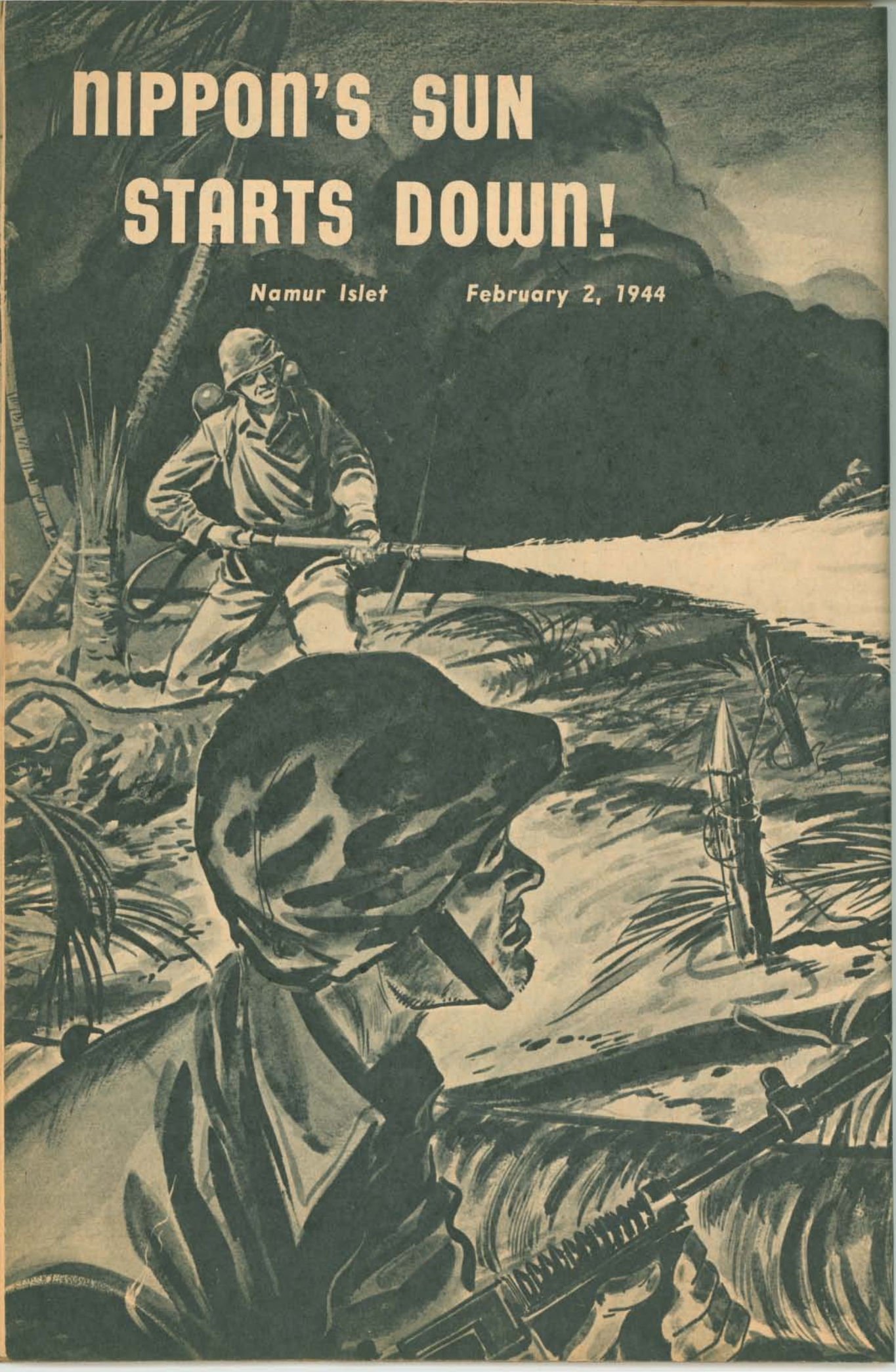
MARINE MAGIC

WHEN A GROUP of marines are ready to cross a body of water using a poncho (rain cape) combat raft, they send a strong swimmer to the opposite shore with a line, which when strung will extend far to either side of the raft. The line is used to haul men across and the poncho back for another trip.

Directly below, Lt. George Plantier, holder of the Silver Star medal and inventor of the poncho combat raft, blows up the bag by tying the ends of a poncho together.

Here the lead-off man starts across a lagoon in the South Pacific with an inflated poncho.

Six other Leathernecks are ready to run ashore after using the line carried across by the lead-off man. These unique combat rafts are ideal for Marines operating in swampy land or on small rivers.


NIPPON'S SUN
STARTS DOWN!
Namur Islet
February 2, 1944

ON JANUARY 31, 1944, after a devastating bombardment by ships and aircraft of the most powerful naval striking force in history, the 4th Marine and 7th Infantry Divisions stormed the Kwajalein Atoll, heart of the Jap Marshall Islands defensive system. By February 8th, all organized Nipponese resistance had ended, in one of the swiftest and most overwhelming American victories of the Pacific war. . . . Key to the 800-mile Kwajalein Atoll was Roi Islet, with its big three-runway airfield and its vital satellite, Namur, whose extensive installations and barracks provided supplies and garrison for Roi. The 4th Marines, using light artillery, mortars, flame-throwers, bazookas, machine-guns, and everything else in the book, captured Roi and Namur on the third day of battle, Wednesday, February 2nd — and thereby achieved another important Marine *first* . . . for Roi was *the first actual Japanese territory taken in this war!*

•

IN MANY INSTANCES, as on Tarawa Island, the reduction of enemy resistance became a matter of dealing individually with blockhouses, pillboxes, machine-gun nests and even trenches. The interiors of these shelters had been divided into numerous compartments, so spider-like in pattern that the Leatherneck flame throwers literally *had to burn out the Japs!* From latest reports, this fumigating service is producing effective results in the Pacific area.

THE MARINES AT BOUGAINVILLE

1—Moving up to the Bougainville front lines, these Leathernecks demonstrate various forms of footwork for muddy going. The leader is recovering his balance after a misstep, the third Marine from the end lifts his feet high, while the others just plow right through.

•

2—Leatherneck officers discuss a report in a shoulder-high "office" — a cleverly constructed roof of banana leaves on poles conceals the pit from Japanese observation planes.

3—Pies, just like mother used to make, are eyed hungrily by these Devildogs as a baker prepares them in a field oven.

•

4—The water is usually warm and sometimes hot, and always full of chlorine, but after a hard day in the broiling sun all the Leathernecks ask is that it be wet.

5—Marines fighting Japs in the Bougainville area meet and vanquish another type of enemy — fire — caused by Jap bombs bursting on a fuel dump. This closeup view shows Leathernecks rolling out unexploded drums of fuel from within 30 feet of the holocaust. Thousands of drums, wet down by hose lines, were saved in this manner. With the exception of two prostration cases, none of the men required medical treatment in spite of the intense heat.

6—A group of Marine Raiders crouch in the dense jungle undergrowth on the beach of Torokina Island during its capture. Camouflaged helmets and suits blend into the tropical foliage so that it is difficult for enemy planes or snipers to spot them.

7—Soil, principally of sandy-mud, plus daily rain storms resulted in this type of road encountered by the Marines during their first days of operation on Bougainville. Jeeps and trucks were unable to get through to the front lines with food and ammunition — Caterpillar tractors and trailers had to be used until engineers and Seabees could surface the roads with coral from the sea.

8—"Caesar," a German shepherd dog, is carried back to a dressing station after he was wounded in action during the battle of Bougainville.

Hit in the flank and side, "Caesar" had his wounds dressed and was ready for action again — but rest was prescribed. According to news service reports, he is the first of these invaluable Devil Dogs to be listed a casualty.

9—A Leatherneck, wounded in Jap ambush, is carried to a Na first aid station near the front lin For the dramatic photo-story of t ambush, turn to the feature J TRAP.

10—To the right, Capt. Gordon Warner points out the features of a Japanese machine gun emplacement on Cape Torokina. Captain Warner, one of the outstanding heroes of the Bouvainville Battle, ran up the first American flag there after leading an attacking party that knocked out 18 Jap pillboxes.

11—Two Marines stand guard, ready for J snipers who are operating in the area, wh the other Leathernecks use palm trees telephone poles as they string lines for th communications.

12—Marine Raiders, wet and tired after an all-night vigil in foxholes beyond the front lines, return to their base.

13—This was Tojo's warehouse! The Leathe necks are examining the remains of a J supply building that fell in the capture Cape Torokina. It was stored largely wi rice, fish heads and dried fruit.

HARD TO KILL!

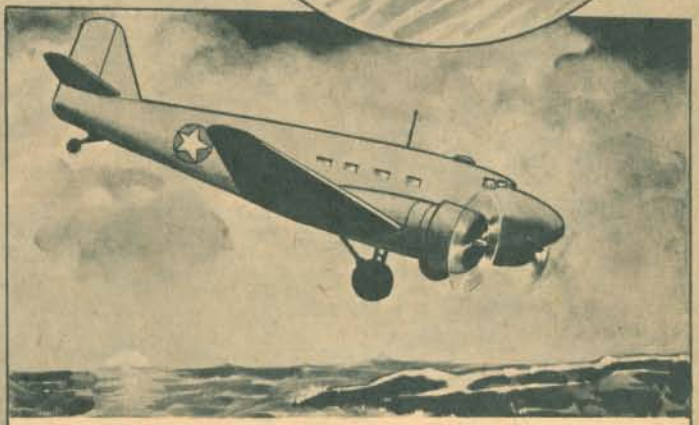
1 — In the desperate fighting for Guadalcanal, 24-year-old Private W. V. Brewer, USMC, proved a hard man to kill. . . .

2—Helping to defend Henderson Field during a night attack, Brewer seemed doomed when his machine-gun's firing pin broke!

3—But another Marine leaped into the dugout and kept the Japs away until Brewer repaired the weapon! . . . Meanwhile, malaria was beginning to grip the young Leatherneck. . . .

4—Ordered to the hospital for treatment, Brewer was part of the target when Jap battleships shelled the area. He departed hurriedly. . . .

5 — With shells bursting all about him, Brewer raced to an air-raid shelter and, not taking time to *climb* down, *dived* fifteen feet to safety — thus suffering his only injury of the campaign, a dislocated elbow!



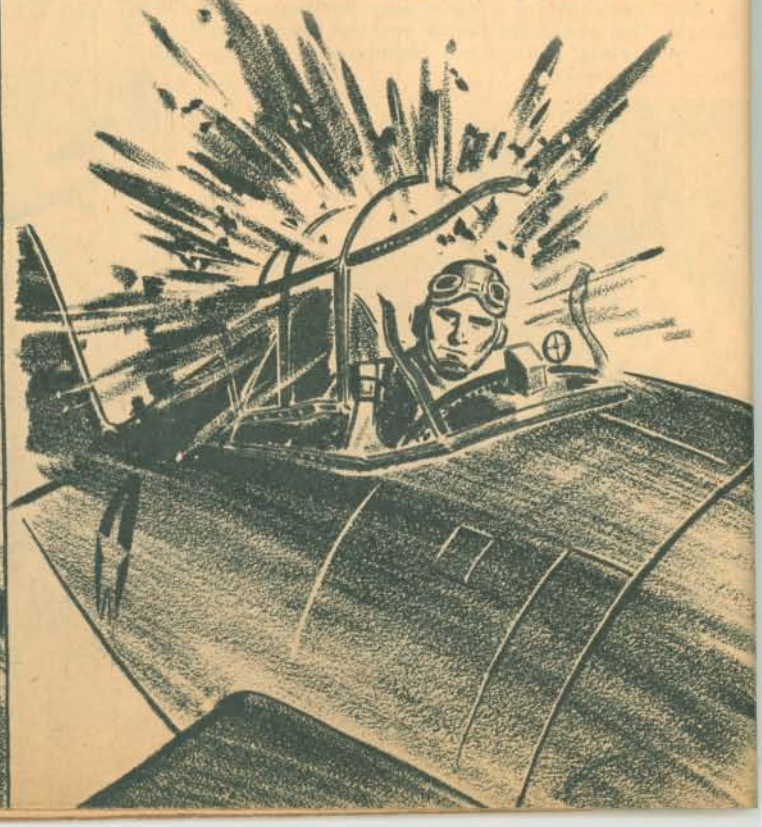
6—Next day, Brewer was evacuated in a transport plane — which cruised helplessly all night when its radio broke down, and then, gas nearly gone, was forced down on a small reef. Brewer and his companions were on that reef 10 days, with little food and less water, before they were rescued. All of which would seem to prove that Marines are pretty tough apples!

CORSAIR CAVALIER

THIS IS THE STORY of a grease monkey who b came greased lightning in the war-stormed skies the South Pacific. . . . KEN WALSH enlisted with th Marines in 1933, spent two years as an aviation mechani won his wings in 1937, trained with a guy named Je Foss in 1942, got to Guadalcanal on Lincoln's Birthda 1943, and came home in September officially credite with 20 Jap planes destroyed, a half dozen probable and a Nip supply ship strafed and sunk in enemy water

2—Lieut. Walsh met the Japs on April 1, 1943, when a big force of Nip bombers and fighters flew down from the Northern Solomons to raid Guadalcanal. Over the Russell Islands, Walsh's Marine Fighting Squadron tore into the 25 Zeros and in the first five minutes, Walsh shot down two of them. . . .

3—When a 20-mm. cannon shell blasted th hood right off the cockpit of his new Vough Corsair, Walsh was too excited to pay muc attention. He went on fighting and killed dive-bomber. Meanwhile, his fellow pilots a counted for 13 more Jap aircraft. . . .

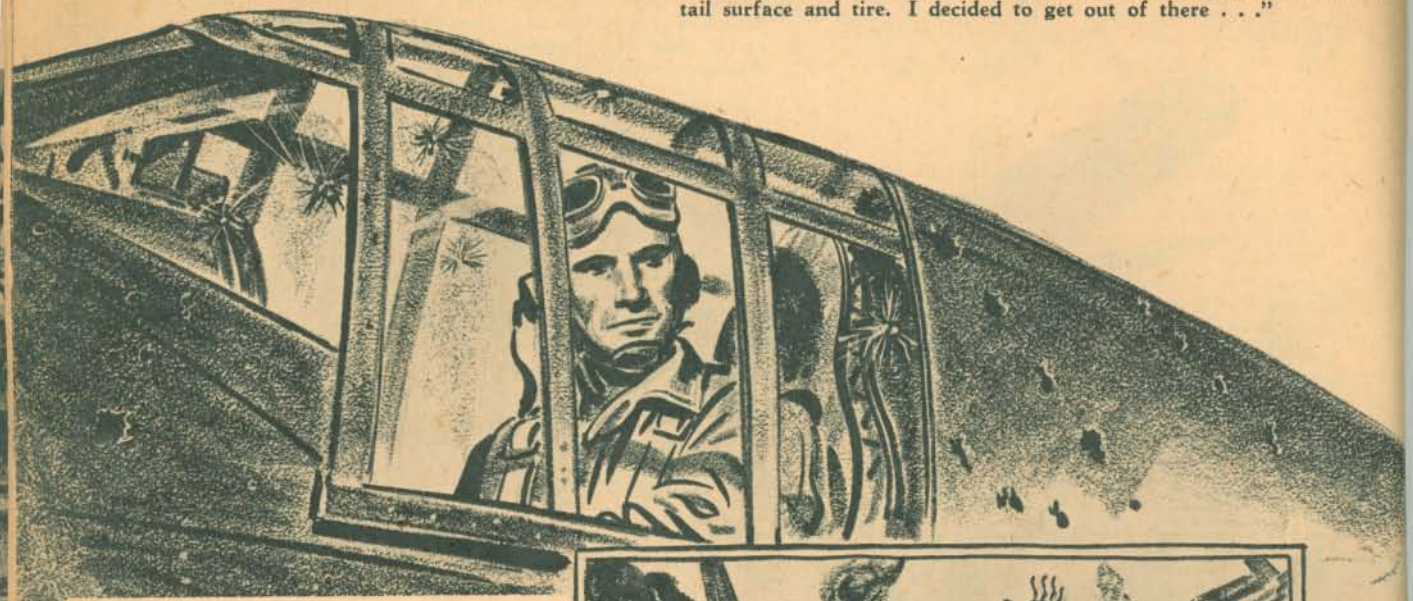


4—In August, Walsh had his narrowest escape. . . . On the 12th, covering 24 Liberators returning from a raid on Bougainville, Walsh and 12 other fighter pilots got into a running dogfight with attacking Zeros. While knocking one down, Walsh was jumped from behind by another and was only saved when his wingman, Lt. Bill Johnston of Birmingham, Alabama, shot the Jap off his tail. . . .

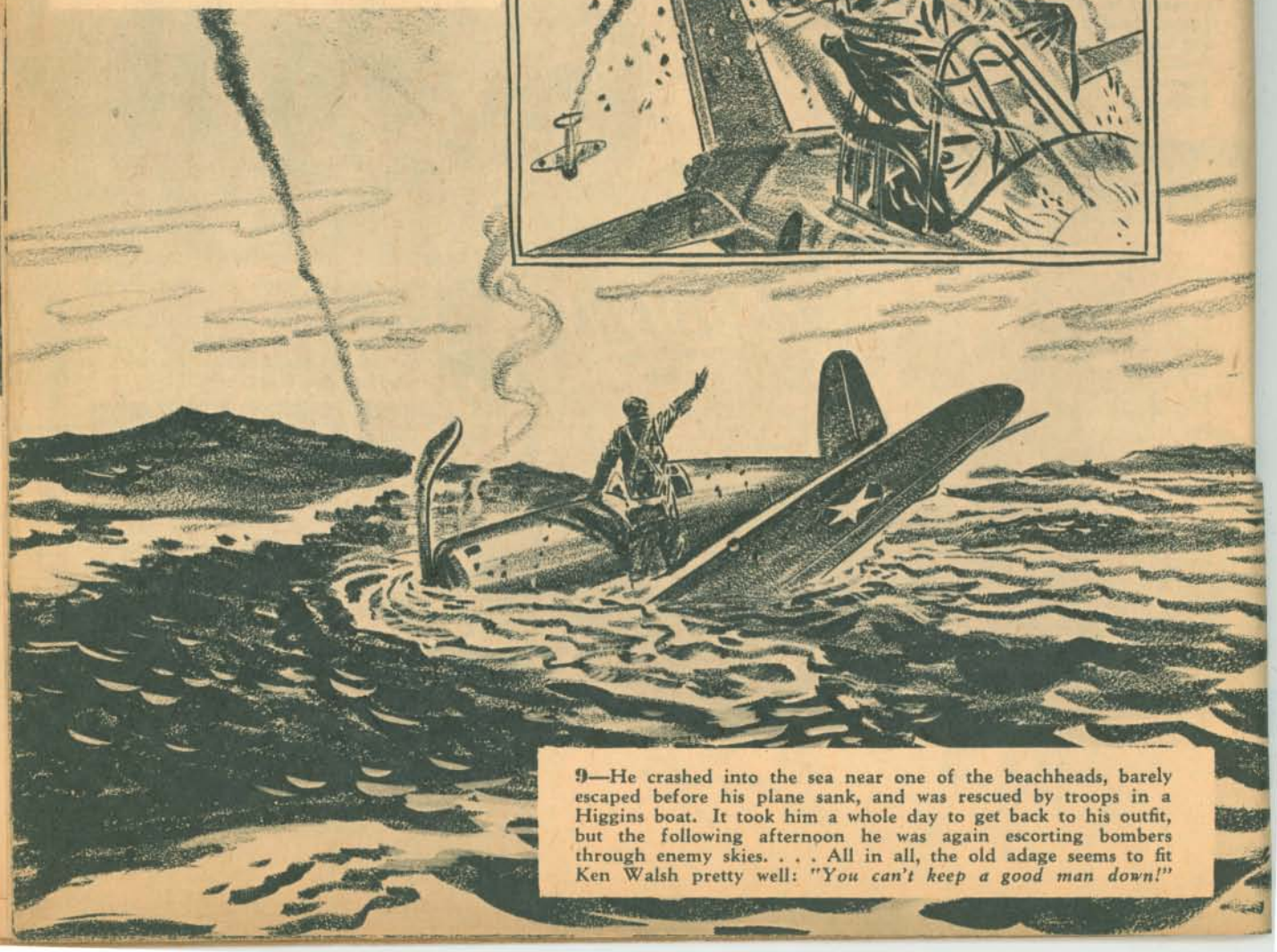
5—His plane badly crippled, he somehow managed to reach a base on New Georgia Island, landed nearly out of control, crashing into another ship parked on the runway, lived through that, and counted his Corsair's wounds: 7 cannon rips and 20-odd bullet holes. . . .

6—Two days later, protecting ground forces assaulting Vella Lavella Island, Walsh lost his sky-mates while shooting down a Zero and found himself making a single-handed attack on nine Jap dive-bombers. . . .

7—Walsh sent two dive-bombers down in flames — Then the Zeros jumped him! "In a few seconds, they had me boresighted from the rear. I was hit by 20-mm. cannon shots in my right wing, and the wing tank exploded. Another shot severed my hydraulic line and aileron control rod. Other shots punctured my horizontal stabilizer, tail surface and tire. I decided to get out of there . . ."



8—He *got!* . . . He landed with jammed landing flaps, grabbed another plane — and went up again. . . . Then came August 30th, a big day for him. Escorting bombers on another Bougainville raid, Walsh shot down two Zeros before he and 3 other Marine pilots were caught by a swarm of 20 Japs. Five of them cut him off from his friends, and although he knocked off two of the five, the others chopped him to pieces. . . .



9—He crashed into the sea near one of the beachheads, barely escaped before his plane sank, and was rescued by troops in a Higgins boat. It took him a whole day to get back to his outfit, but the following afternoon he was again escorting bombers through enemy skies. . . . All in all, the old adage seems to fit Ken Walsh pretty well: *"You can't keep a good man down!"*

JAP TRAP

These remarkable pictures were snapped by a Marine Corps Combat Photographer who happened on the scene the very moment a group of Leathernecks was ambushed by Japs. The ensuing action provided one of the most dramatic sequences of photos ever recorded by the lens of a camera.

•

FIERCE FIGHTING at the junction of the Piva and Numa-Numa Trails on Bougainville Island necessitated calling tanks to the scene. A Marine, killed by the Japs, was placed on the roadway as bait. As the first tank approached the body it struck a jungle vine stretched across the road and set off a land mine. The tank was disabled and the crew, armed with sub-machine guns, climbed out to get the Japs.

1—One Leatherneck was killed instantly — his body can be seen beside the tank in the picture above. The crew kept fighting and were joined by Marine Raider Robert Lansley and his specially trained dog, "Andy." The dog located Japanese machine gun nests on either side of the road and here Lansley is seen drawing the Jap's fire so the Marines could determine if the guns were firing from fixed positions or firing free. Three times he drew their fire before it was established that the guns were in fixed positions.

•

2—Two Marines at the left have fired on the Japs behind the tank, driving them around to the right end where Lansley picked them off.

3—Lansley runs back up Death-Alley to escape the bullets cracking around him, as the other Marines hold their fire till he reaches safety. He is running standing up at this point but the trip from the tank to where he stood erect was made on his belly with Jap machine gun fire overhead.

4—A wounded member of the ambushed tank crew is given first aid treatment while Lansley (walking to the right) continues his search for Japs. Shortly after this picture was taken the wounded man was removed and the Leathernecks took over the Jap positions. While the Marines were examining the machine guns and other equipment a Jap, hidden in a dugout which they had overlooked, threw a hand grenade. Lansley and five others in the group were wounded. Despite his wounds, Lansley turned his sub-machine gun on the Jap and killed him.

LEATHERNECK LENS

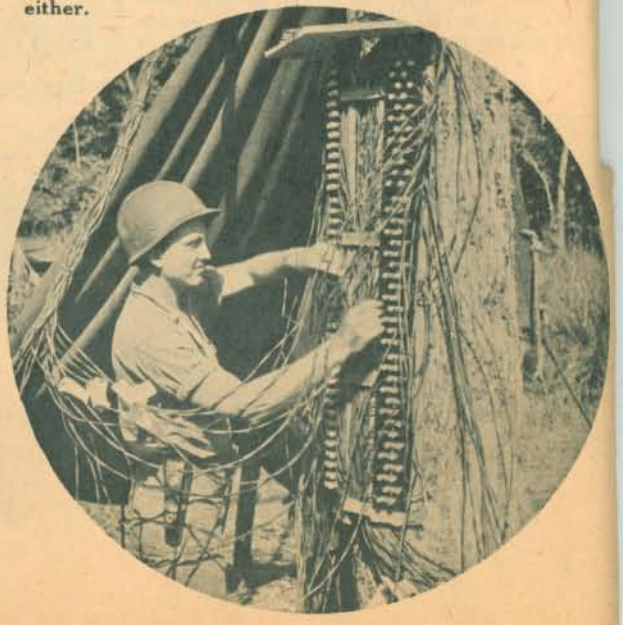
MARINE CORPS VIEWS AND NEWS
HERE ✪ THERE ✪ EVERYWHERE

1—"Pollywogs" can become "Shellbacks" upon crossing the Equator if they submit to the proper initiation. Recently a group of Marines crossed the line but were too busy aboard ship to hold "court," so the ceremony was performed on the South Pacific beach where they landed. This is believed to be the first land-locked initiation to take place. In transforming a "Pollywog" into a "Shellback," he is given a lopsided haircut, has grease pushed in his face and sand poured into his trousers.

2—A medical corpsman checks his equipment amid the wreckage of what was a hospital before a recent hurricane struck. Fortunately there were no patients in the place at the time, as the wind apparently didn't stop to read the sign.

3—A Marine barber plies his trade at a South Pacific base. The Leatherneck on the right, who just had a haircut, waits to see what "Chick" is going to do to the Fuzzy-Wuzzy in the chair.

4—Installing a telephone switchboard on the side of a tree. If the Leatherneck ever gets his wires crossed, a certain Marine division in the Pacific will make with the double talk — and it won't be "Mairzy Doats," either.



5—These Devildogs unload miles and miles of barbed wire — to keep the Japs in front until they can put them behind it.

6—Leathernecks' humor plus their adaptability to make the best of an impossible situation is demonstrated by these two Marines on Tarawa.

7—"Puddles" casts a wary eye about as her offspring, "Tiny Tim," pops his head out of a field shoe at the Marine Corps training base at Parris Island, S. C.

8—With all they have to contend, thoughtful Leathernecks do their best to lighten the burden of ration-harassed civilians.

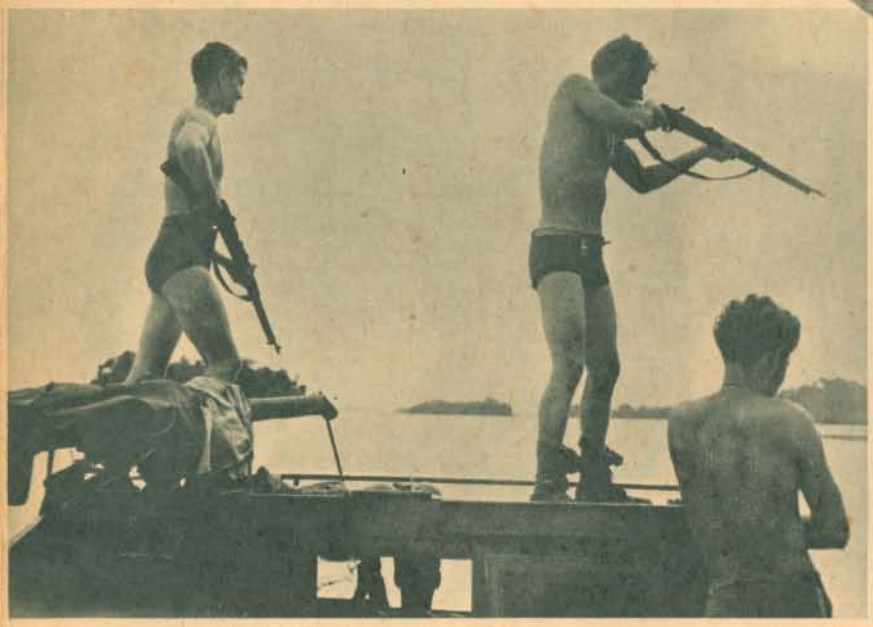
9—Half-way around the world entertaining service men, lanky screen star Gary Cooper met his second cousin, Pfc. Delbert Cantando for the first time.

10—A good and sufficient reason for the soup being watery. The Marines invaded Cape Gloucester during the monsoon season and the heavy rains played havoc with one of their galleys — submerging it in a foot of water and putting the field ranges out of commission.

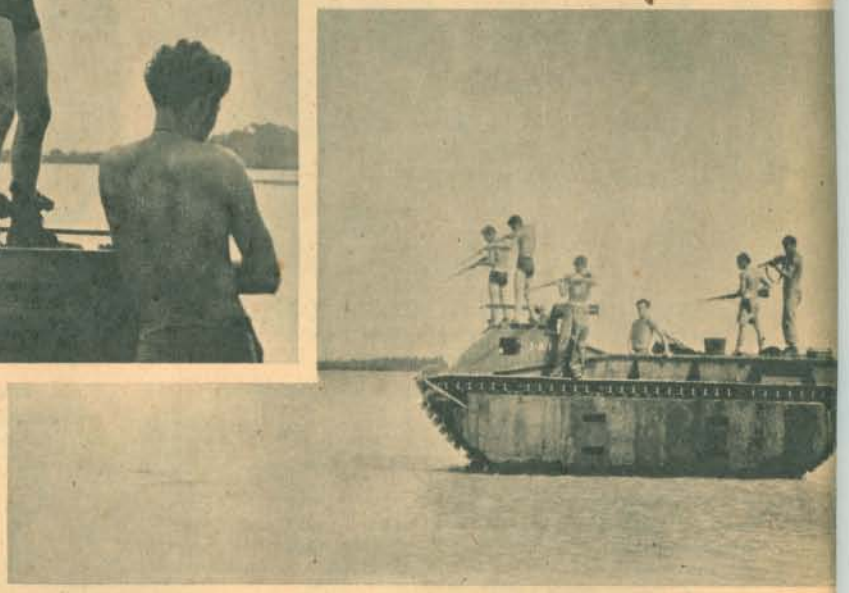
FISH FRY A La LEATHERNECK

DOWN in the South Pacific, where it's open season for fish 'n' Nips, the Marines' method of acquiring the necessary ingredients for a shore dinner is unique, effective and decidedly quick — it has to be, when catching a fish is a brief but welcome interlude in the more important job of increasing the Japanese mortality rate.

1—The approved fishing tackle is out of the question, so the Marines board an amphibious tractor which will take them to the "hunting grounds" over sand, coral, brush and water.



2—A school of fish is located in shallow water and the Leathernecks put captured Japanese rifles and ammunition to good use.



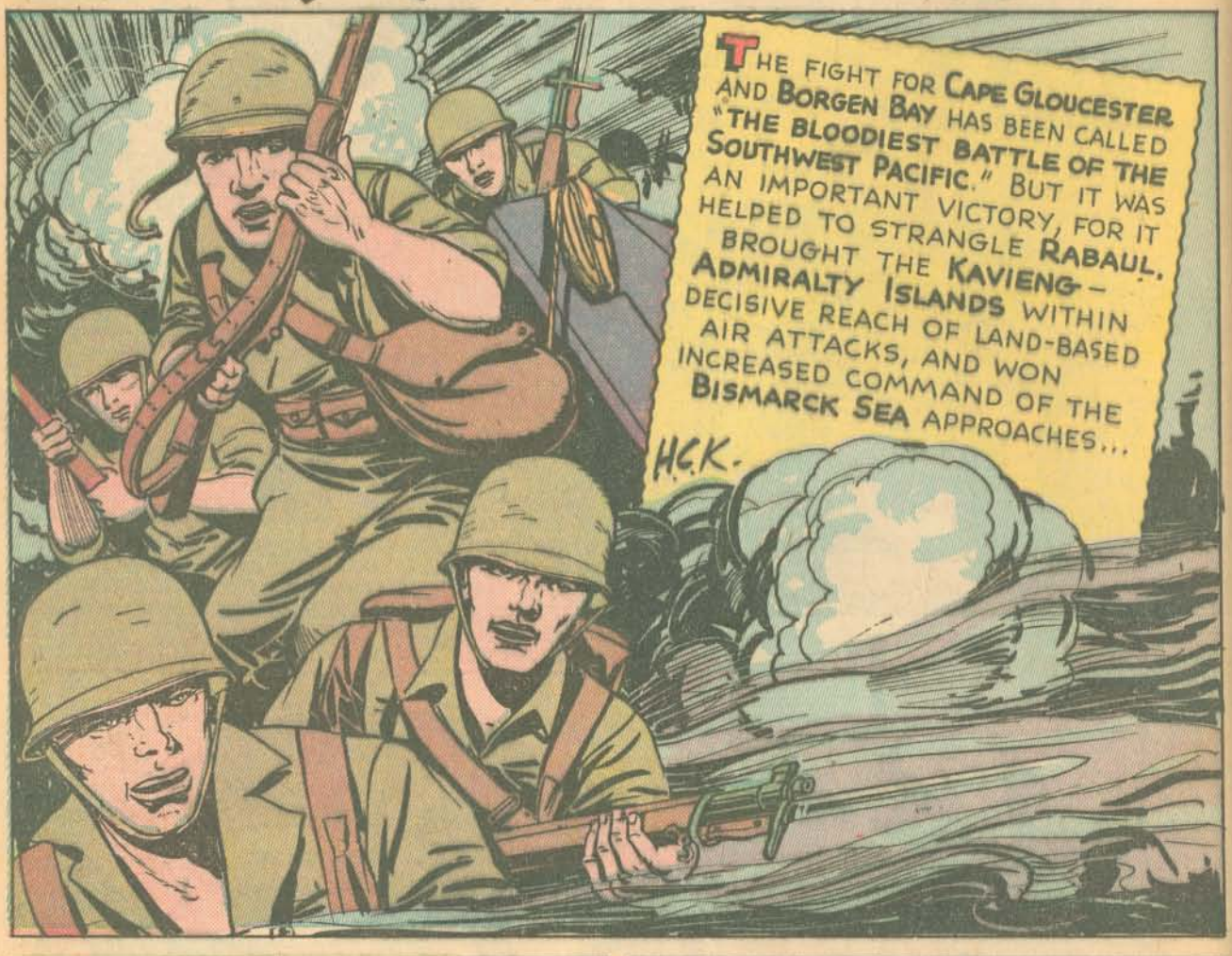
3—The idea is not to hit the fish but to fire near them—the impact of the bullet in the water stuns the fish and before he regains his equilibrium, they scoop him up.

4—The fish are cleaned and prepared for a sizzling frying pan — in a few minutes' time the ingenious Leathernecks will be relishing browned and tasty salt-water steaks.

The NIPS are NUTS
EXHIBIT - HOW SUPERIOR NIPPONESE FIGHTERS DESTROY HONORABLE UNITED STATES NAVY
YEAH? EVER SEE THE BATTLESHIPS WE HAVE IN MACY'S ?
SEE? NIPPON WIN EASY !!
WAS THE ATTACK ON PEARL HARBOR A SURPRISE? WELL MAYBE.. BUT MORE THAN TEN YEARS AGO THE NUTTY NIPPONESE ADVERTISED THEIR COMING WAR WITH AMERICA! JAPANESE DEPARTMENT STORES FEATURED MAP EXHIBITS IN THEIR WINDOWS AND EVEN HUGE FLOOR DISPLAYS WHICH DEMONSTRATED HOW THE NIPS WERE GOING TO DEFEAT THE UNITED STATES! AMERICAN VISITORS WERE WELCOMED AT THE EXHIBITS.
LOOK! A DIVE-BUMMER!!
THE LATE GENERAL NAGAOKA, KNOWN AS "THE FATHER OF JAPANESE AVIATION," HAD A MUSTACHE MORE THAN TWO FEET LONG, WHICH HE CUT TO RESEMBLE AN AIRPLANE'S PROPELLER
TEE HEE! FACE IS VERY RED!
WHAT ISS MORE - WE LOSE IT! TEE HEE!
WOOD COMAN
AND WHEN THE WHACKY NIPS ARE EMBARRASSED OR FRIGHTENED THEY GIGGLE!

THE UNITED STATES MARINES

THE CRIMSON CAPE



REAL INDIANS, EH? - FROM TWENTY DIFFERENT TRIBES, YOU SAY?
THEY'RE BUSHMASTERS, SPECIALLY TRAINED IN PANAMA FOR JUNGLE FIGHTING ...THE 6TH ARMY IS PROUD OF THEM!
BY CHRISTMAS DAY, THE 6TH ARMY WON CONTROL OF ARAWE ...THEN, 50 MILES AWAY, ON DECEMBER 26, THUNDER BROKE WITH THE DAWN AT CAPE GLOUCESTER!
ALLIED CRUISERS AND DESTROYERS SAVAGELY POUNDED THE CAPE — AND LIEUT-GEN. GEORGE KENNEY'S 5TH AIR FORCE HURLED DESTRUCTION FROM THE SKY...
REMEMBER WHEN I WAS A SKYWRITER FOR THAT ADVERTISING FIRM...?
NEVER MIND "PEPSI-COLA" NOW — GET THAT SMOKE DOWN!
AND, OUT OF THE THUNDER, OUT OF THE SMOKE, UNITED STATES MARINES STORM ASHORE!

JEEPERS, BILL! LOOKIT ALL THE PILLBOXES!
YEAH - BUT THE BOMBARDMENT SEEMS TO HAVE CHASED MOST OF THE PILLS!

COMMANDED BY MAJOR GEN. WILLIAM H. RUPERTUS, THE MARINES CONSOLIDATED BEACHHEADS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE CAPE AND, 4 HOURS AFTER LANDING, CAPTURED THEIR FIRST DAY'S OBJECTIVE - TARGET HILL...

THEY ALSO OCCUPIED LONG ISLAND, AT THE SOUTHWEST ENTRANCE OF VITIAZ STRAIT.
LONG ISLAND! WADDYA KNOW - I'M HOME!

BY MIDAFTERNOON, MARINE BOLOS WERE SLASHING PATHS THRU THICK GLOUCESTER JUNGLES

THAT'S THE WAY TO DO IT!
THOSE "ALLIGATORS" ARE TOUGH BABIES, MAC!

TROUBLE AT THE BEACHHEAD, BOYS! LET'S GO!

AND TROUBLE THERE WAS!

WE'VE BEEN HERE SEVEN HOURS – I WONDERED WHEN THOSE KNUCKLEHEAD NIPS WOULD SHOW UP!
START WONDERING WHEN OUR FIGHTERS WILL GET HERE...!

GET OUTTA HERE, YOU BUMS!

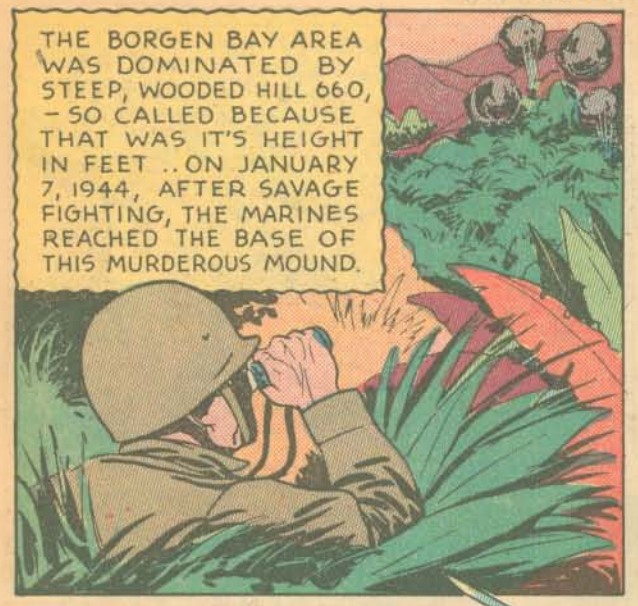
THE JAPS MADE SEVERAL BOMBING ATTACKS THAT DAY. THEY SANK ONE SMALL AUXILIARY VESSEL, DAMAGED TWO OTHERS, SHOT DOWN SEVEN AMERICAN PLANES. THE NIPS LOST 36 BOMBERS AND 25 FIGHTERS.

WITH THE BEACHHEAD SECURED, THE MARINES PUSH THROUGH THE SWAMPY JUNGLE TOWARDS CAPE GLOUCESTER'S VITAL TWIN AIRSTRIPS...

THERE WAS A RIVER, ONE-AND-A-HALF MILES FROM THE AIRFIELDS, STRONGLY GUARDED BY JAP MORTARS AND LIGHT ARTILLERY.
KNOW WHO'S OVER THERE? – THE NIP 65TH DIVISION!
THE JAPS WHO WERE AT BATAAN AND CORREGIDOR, EH?

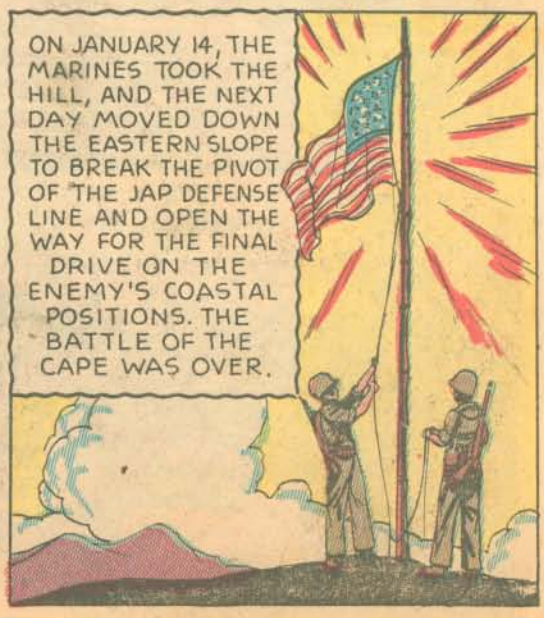
THE RIVER WAS TOUGHER THAN JORDAN TO CROSS – BUT THE MARINES CROSSED IT!

AIRPOWER HELPED THE CROSSING.
FLAME-THROWING TANKS SPEARHEADED THE ATTACK ON THE AIRSTRIPS...
NIP VETS OF BATAAN, IS IT?.. WELL, WE'RE VETERANS OF GUADALCANAL!
IN THE FACE OF HEAVY MORTAR AND MACHINE-GUN FIRE, THE MARINES TOOK ONE AIRSTRIP WEDNESDAY NIGHT, DECEMBER 29, REGROUPED, AND WAITED FOR THE DAWN... ON THURSDAY, B-25 MITCHELLS AND B-24 LIBERATORS OPENED THE ASSAULT ON THE SECOND AIRFIELD WITH A SHATTERING AIR BARRAGE.
SO LONG SAMURAI
THEN, IN A WILD PRE-DAWN ATTACK, THE MARINES HIT THE JAP BIVOUAC AREA...!
HOLY COW!- BIG JAPS...!
WE'LL CUT 'EM DOWN TO THEIR RIGHT SIZE!
LET'S FINISH THIS QUICK! IT'S NEARLY NOON — AND I'M STARVING!
CAREFUL YOU DON'T GET A BELLYFULL OF JAP STEEL!
EXACTLY 100 HOURS AFTER THEIR SUNDAY LANDING SIX MILES AWAY, THE MARINES TOOK THE TWIN AIRFIELDS OF GLOUCESTER ... NOW THEY WERE READY TO MOVE AGAINST THEIR ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE - THE GREAT JAP SUPPLY BASE OF BORGEN BAY!



FOR SEVEN BLOODY DAYS AND NIGHTS, THE BATTLE FOR HILL 660 RAGED... DURING THAT TIME, MARINE ARTILLERY SMASHED A JAP ATTEMPT TO LAND REINFORCEMENTS AT BORGEN BAY, SINKING TWO TROOP-LADEN TRANSPORTS ...

ON JANUARY 14, THE MARINES TOOK THE HILL, AND THE NEXT DAY MOVED DOWN THE EASTERN SLOPE TO BREAK THE PIVOT OF THE JAP DEFENSE LINE AND OPEN THE WAY FOR THE FINAL DRIVE ON THE ENEMY'S COASTAL POSITIONS. THE BATTLE OF THE CAPE WAS OVER.



MONTE ZUMA TRIP O'LEE
A FINE SPOT TO RUN OUT OF AMMUNITION! WE ARE IN A HOLE, NOW TRIP!
AND WE'RE SURROUNDED BY JAPS— YOU WAIT HERE, MONTE —I'LL BEAT IT BACK TO THE OUTFIT!
TAKE IT EASY, TRIP! THAT'S SUICIDE!
WELL— YA CAN'T SHOOT JAPS WITHOUT AMMUNITION!
ZING!
CAREFUL TRIP! WATCH OUT FOR TH' LITTLE YELLOW MONKEY
DON'T WORRY, MONTE I'M GONNA FLY!
ZING!
OH, BABY — I THOUGHT THAT HAD MY NUMBER ON IT!
BOOM!
ZING
PING!
I'D BETTER TAKE THIS SHORT CUT!
BOY—AM I GLAD I'M A MARINE!
BOOM
I'LL MAKE IT NOW!
ZING
CLUNK
OOPS!
THEY GOT ME!

WONDER WHAT'S KEEPING TRIP — HE'S BEEN GONE FOR HOURS
?

I SHOULDN'T HAVE LET TRIP GO BACK ALONE
ZING!

TRIP!
HELP, MONTE-HELP!
ZING!

SAY, JERRY - DID YOU HEAR ABOUT MONTE AND TRIP TAKING TH' FIRST PRISONER!
NAW! ?

HEY, FELLOWS — GET A LOAD OF THE HEROES - MONTE AND TRIP GOT A JAP!

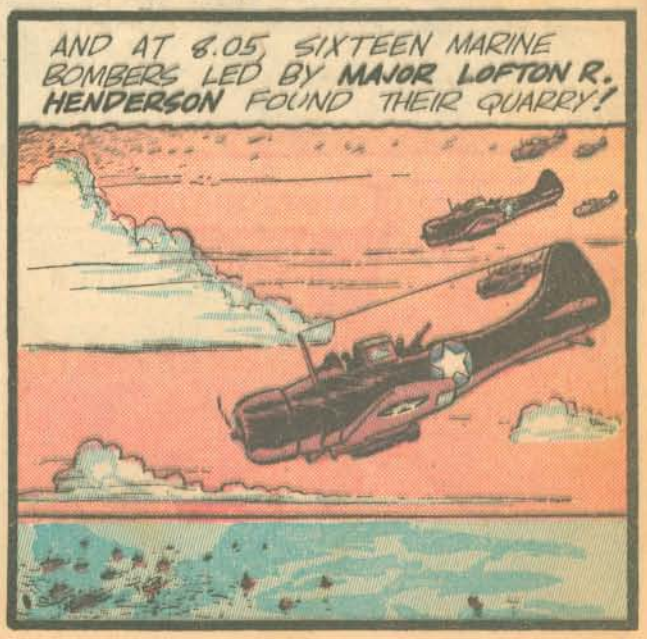
THAT'S NO JAP!

IT'S A MONKEY!
WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?
HE GOT ME WITH A COCOANUT!
RAY McGILL

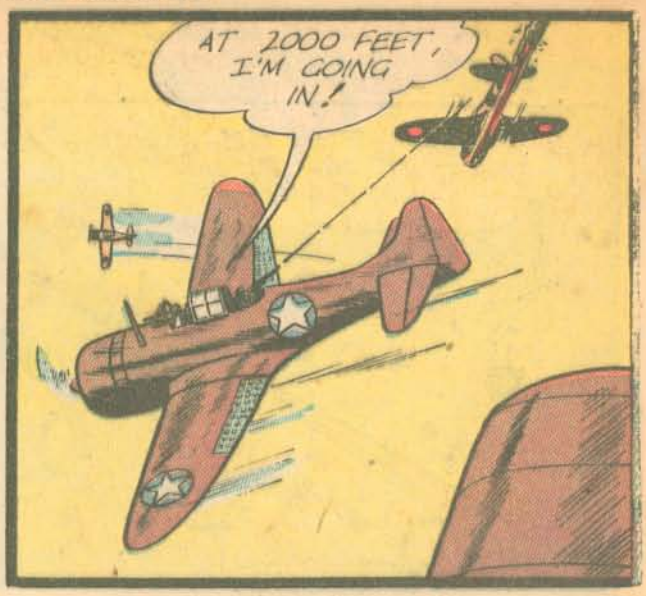
LATER
IT'S ALL THE SAME, BOYS, YOU DESERVE A MEDAL!

CAPTAINS COURAGEOUS

THE STAUNCH FIGHTING SPIRIT OF THE ENLISTED MEN IN THE **UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS** IS A STERLING TRIBUTE TO THE COURAGEOUS LEADERSHIP OF THE CORPS' COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, FOR THE EXAMPLE SET BY THESE VALIANT CAPTAINS IS BOTH AN INSPIRATION AND A CHALLENGE... THERE WAS, FOR INSTANCE, THE CRITICAL **BATTLE** OF **MIDWAY**-



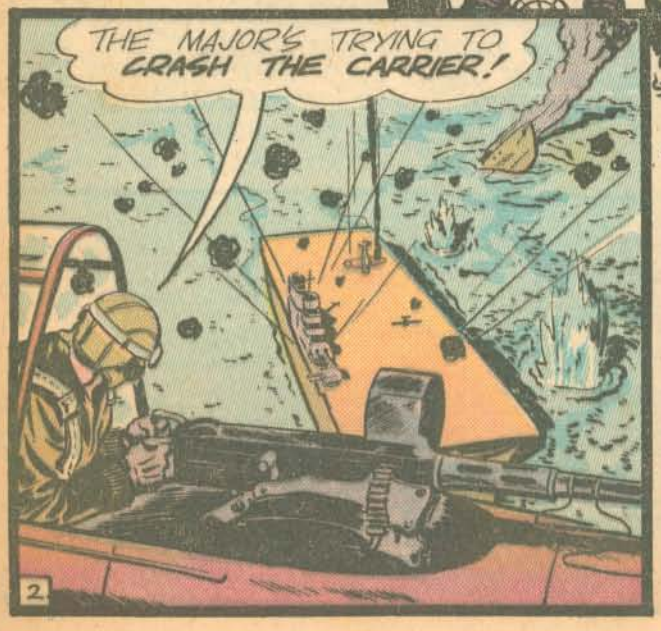
HEADS UP! ZEROS AT 5 O'CLOCK!


AT 2000 FEET, I'M GOING IN!

THERE GOES THE MAJOR!

MORE THAN SIXTY JAP SHIPS HURLED A HELL OF ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE INTO THE SKY, BUT MAJOR HENDERSON HELD TO HIS COURSE....

THAT DOES IT!

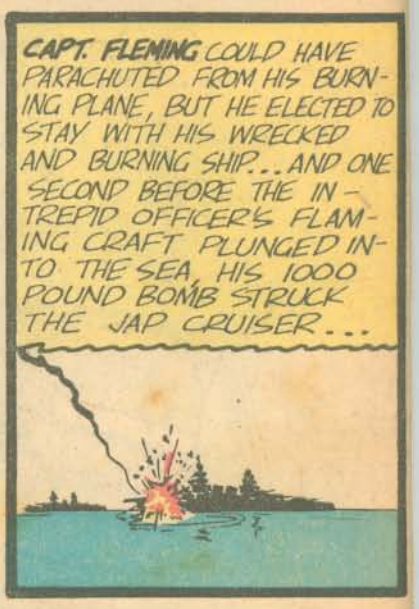

THE MAJOR'S TRYING TO CRASH THE CARRIER!

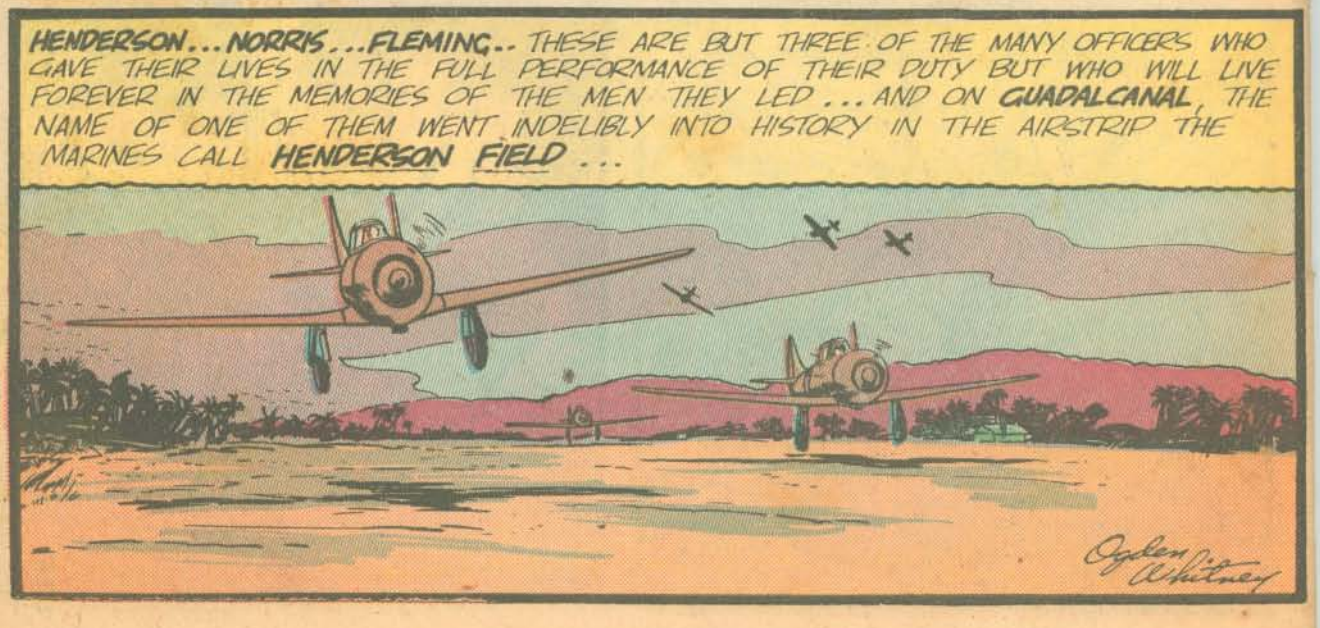
A FEW MINUTES LATER, MAJOR BENJAMIN W. NORRIS LED ANOTHER ATTACK ON THE JAP FLEET...
THAT CARRIER'S BURNING - WE'LL SKIP IT AND GO FOR THE BATTLESHIP!

TWO ON HER TAIL, BOYS! GOOD ENOUGH!

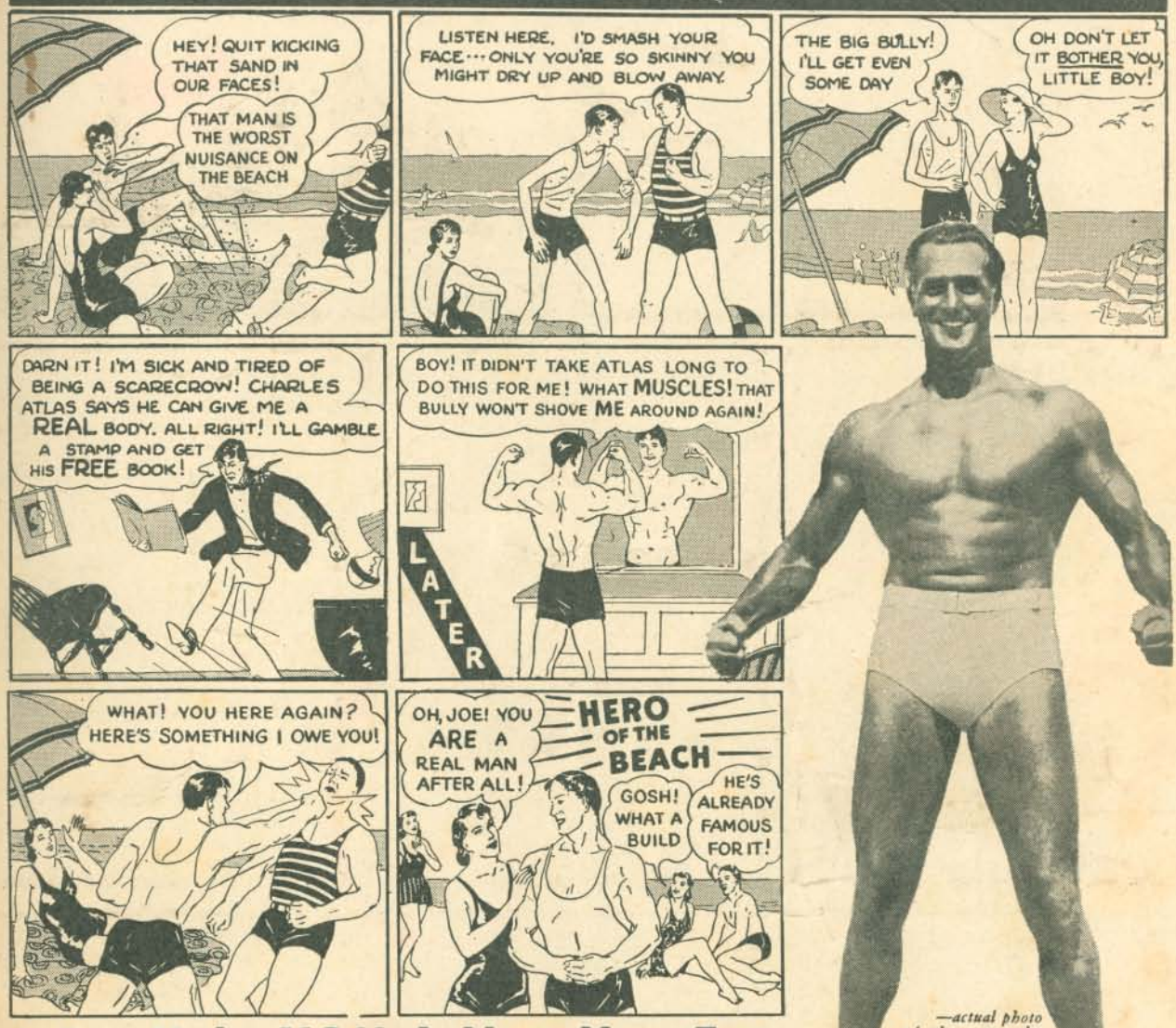
MAJOR NORRIS LIVED THROUGH THAT ATTACK, BUT THAT NIGHT HE LED A BOMBING MISSION FROM WHICH HE FAILED TO RETURN...NEXT MORNING, THE TWELVE SURVIVING MARINE BOMBERS WENT AFTER THE JAPS...

THEY FOUND A JAP CRUISER AND A BATTLESHIP, AND AS THE FLIGHT BEGAN ITS DIVE, THE PLANE PILOTED BY CAPT. RICHARD FLEMING WAS HIT BY ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE...


CAPT. FLEMING COULD HAVE PARACHUTED FROM HIS BURNING PLANE, BUT HE ELECTED TO STAY WITH HIS WRECKED AND BURNING SHIP...AND ONE SECOND BEFORE THE INTREPID OFFICER'S FLAMING CRAFT PLUNGED INTO THE SEA, HIS 1000 POUND BOMB STRUCK THE JAP CRUISER...


HENDERSON...NORRIS...FLEMING.. THESE ARE BUT THREE OF THE MANY OFFICERS WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THE FULL PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTY BUT WHO WILL LIVE FOREVER IN THE MEMORIES OF THE MEN THEY LED...AND ON GUADALCANAL, THE NAME OF ONE OF THEM WENT INDELIBLY INTO HISTORY IN THE AIRSTRIP THE MARINES CALL HENDERSON FIELD...
Ogden Whitney

HOW JOE'S BODY BROUGHT HIM FAME INSTEAD OF SHAME



—actual photo of the man who holds the title, "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man."

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